

4

Tsunami
Umino

事実婚企
業型人感
晩婚化
就職離
業員雇用主

THE FULL-TIME Wife ESCAPIST

永久
就職

高齡処女

契約
厚揚げ

Tsunami Umino

VOLUME
4

THE FULL-TIME
Wife ESCAPIST

*The Full-Time
Wife Escapist*
Tsunami Umino

THE FULL-TIME
Wife ESCAPIST

15

Send Your Cutest Child
on a Journey





OH, YEAH?

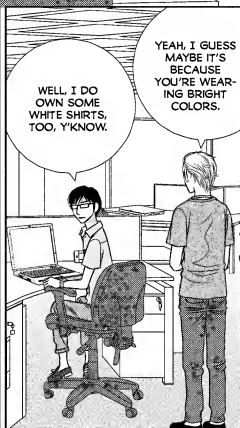
...YOU SEEM
A LITTLE
DIFFERENT.

Y'KNOW,
TSUZAKI-
SAN...



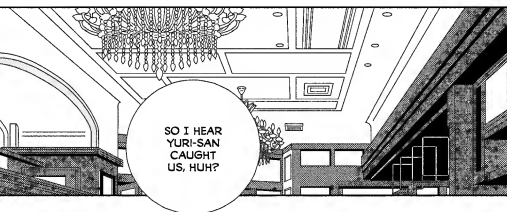
IS THAT SO?
I HADN'T
REALIZED.

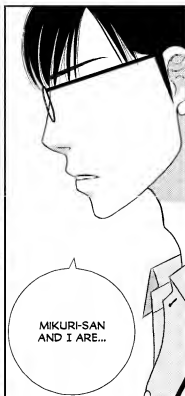
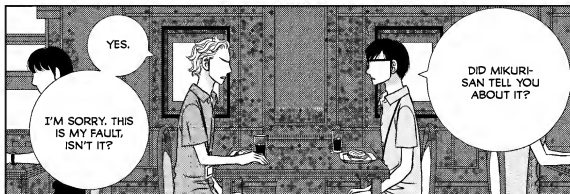
MAYBE SO, BUT I
FEEL LIKE YOU'VE
BEEN WEARING DARK
CLOTHES FOR A
WHILE NOW, SO YOU
JUST LOOK BRIGHTER
THAN USUAL.

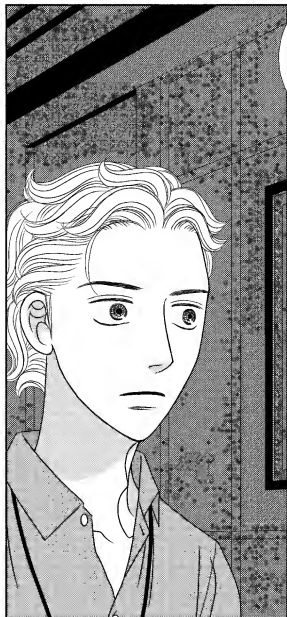


WELL, I DO
OWN SOME
WHITE SHIRTS,
TOO, Y'KNOW.

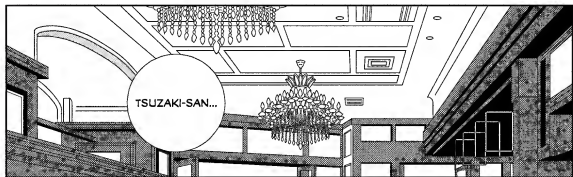
YEAH, I GUESS
MAYBE IT'S
BECAUSE
YOU'RE WEAR-
ING BRIGHT
COLORS.







WELL, LET'S JUST
SAY WE'RE TAKING
MEASURES TO
DEAL WITH THE
ISSUE.



TSUZAKI-SAN...



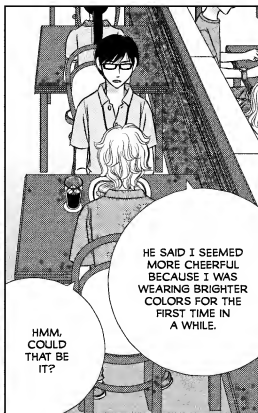
HAS SOMETHING
CHANGED?

...HINO-SAN SAID
THE SAME THING
EARLIER.



I DO LIKE THEM,
BUT I OWN BRIGHT
CLOTHES, TOO,
Y'KNOW.

COME TO THINK OF
IT, I GUESS I DO
TEND TO THINK OF
YOU AS THE TYPE TO
WEAR DARK COLORS,
TSUZAKI-SAN.



HE SAID I SEEMED
MORE CHEERFUL
BECAUSE I WAS
WEARING BRIGHTER
COLORS FOR THE
FIRST TIME IN
A WHILE.

HMM,
COULD THAT BE
IT?

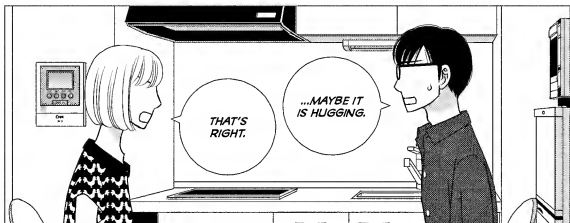


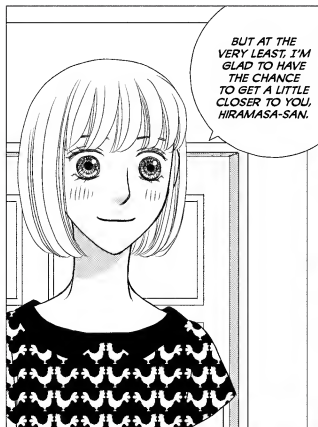
IS IT BECAUSE OF THAT?

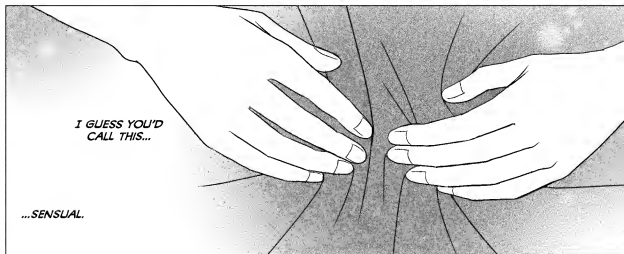












I GUESS YOU'D
CALL THIS...

...SENSUAL.

THIS IS THE RAW FEELING
OF A HUMAN BODY.

ITS THICKNESS...

ITS BREATH...

DAMN...

ITS WARMTH...





...HIRAMASA-SAN IS A REAL
MAN MADE OF FLESH AND
BLOOD, AFTER ALL.

THIS NICE
SCENT...

IT'S
MIKURI-
SAN'S.

I LIKE THIS
SCENT.

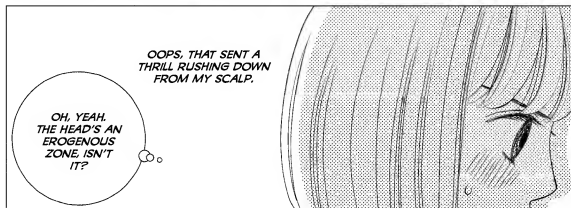


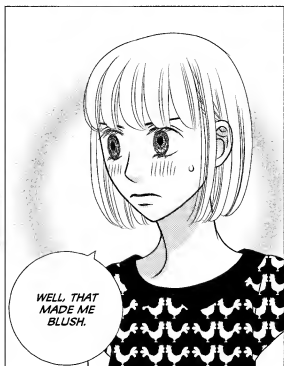
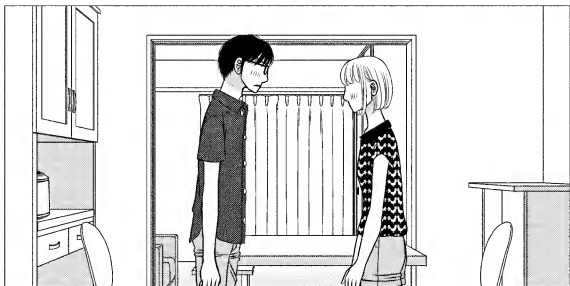
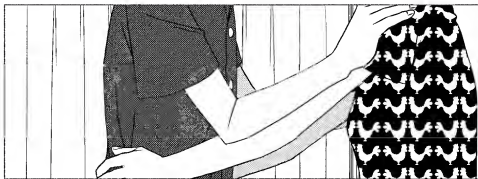
YOUR BREASTS...

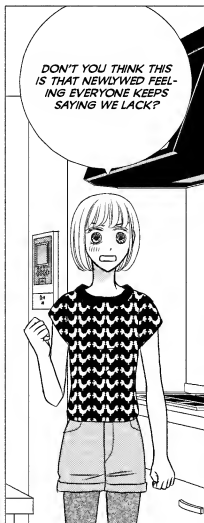
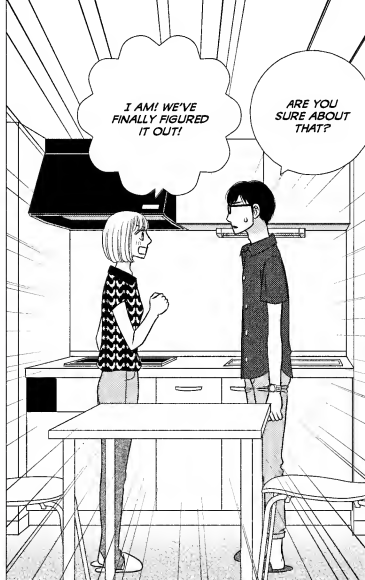
NOT THAT I
MIND, PER-
SONALLY.

...ARE PRESSING
AGAINST ME,
MIKURI-SAN.





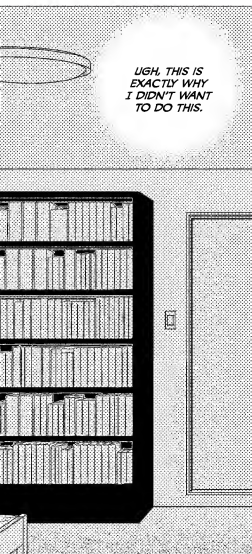






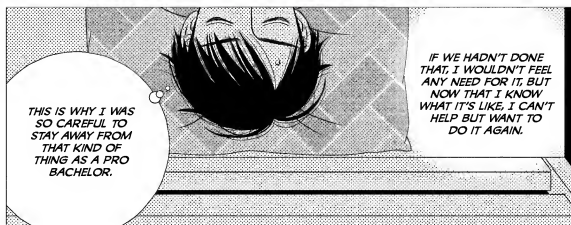
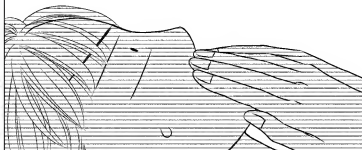
BUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF I
END UP LIKING HIM NOT AS MY
EMPLOYER, BUT AS A MAN?

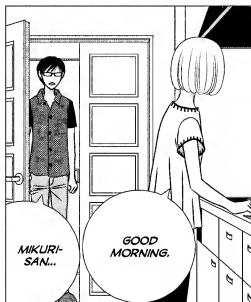
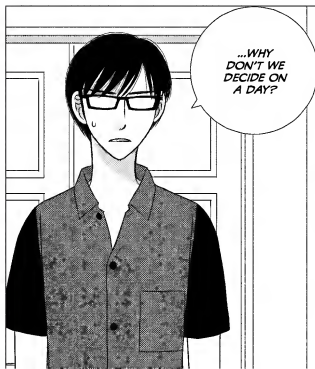
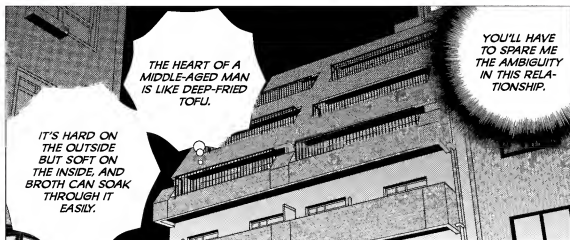
I MEAN, WE'RE
ALREADY MARRIED.

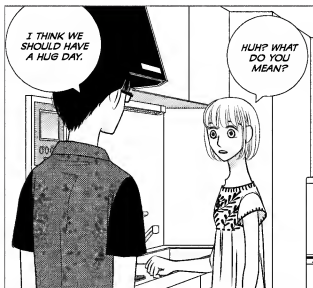
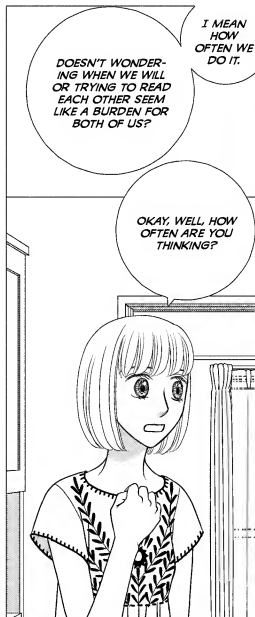


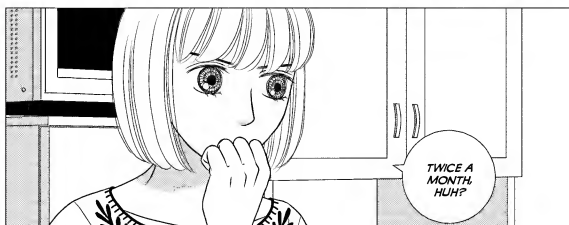
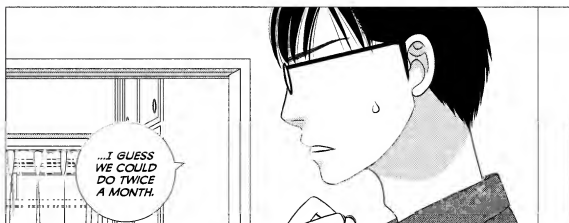
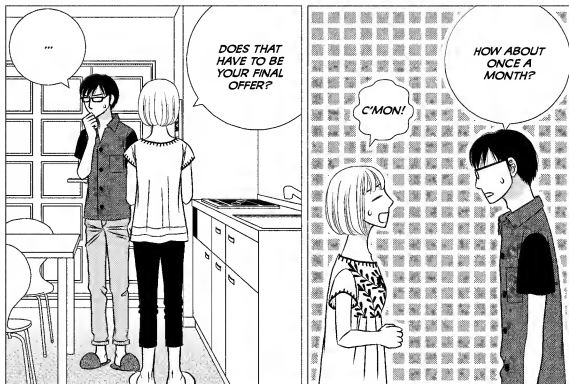
WOULD HIRAMASA-SAN
KEEP PAYING MY WAGES?
WOULD I HAVE TO WORK
FOR FREE?

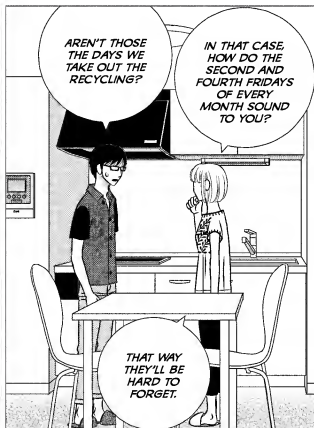
WHAT WILL HAPPEN
TO MY JOB IF WE
MAKE OUR MAR-
RIAGE OFFICIAL?











OH, GOD...

...I'M JUST RELIEVED.



I'M SO GLAD HE DIDN'T SUGGEST
THAT WE QUIT IT.

I'M SO GLAD HE ACCEPTED
MY HUG.



*MAYBE THIS ISN'T A
BAD PLACE TO START.*

*WE CAN PUT THE
REST ON HOLD
FOR NOW.*

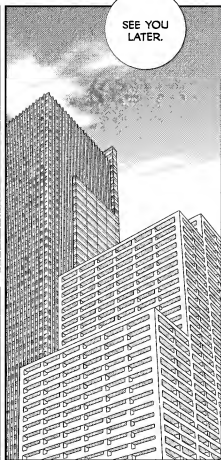


THANKS.

GOOD LUCK
WITH YURI-SAN
AND ALL.



SEE YOU
LATER.



*DAMN, THOUGH,
A HUG SURE
CAN AFFECT YOU
STRONGLY.*





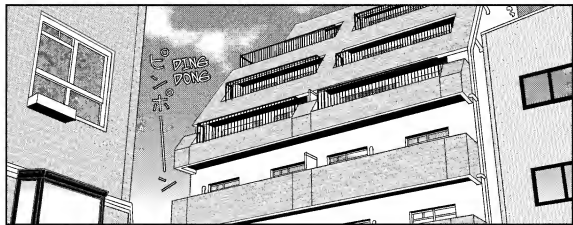
Y'KNOW, DEPENDING ON HOW YOU THINK ABOUT IT...

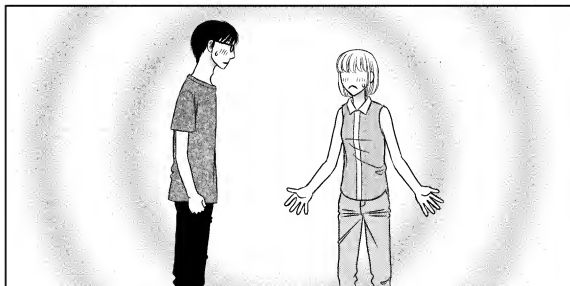
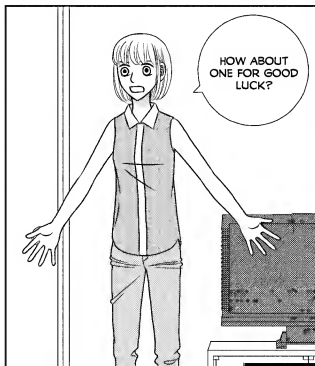


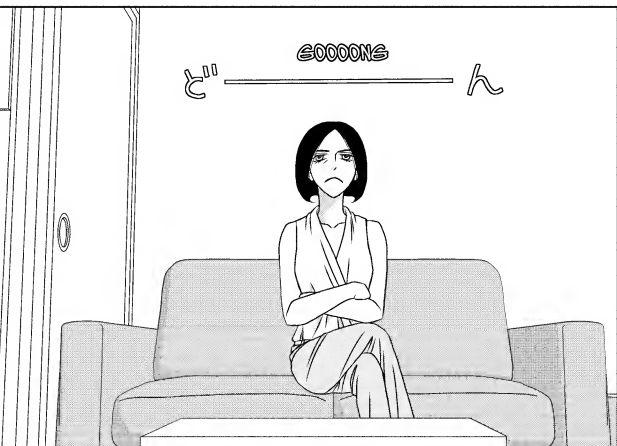
ALSO...



...MIKURI-SAN'S REALLY CUTE
WHEN SHE BLUSHES.



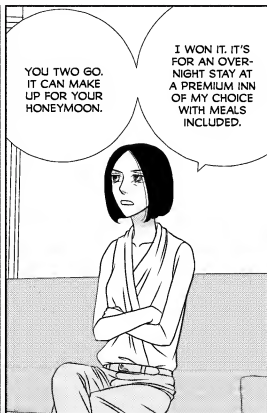






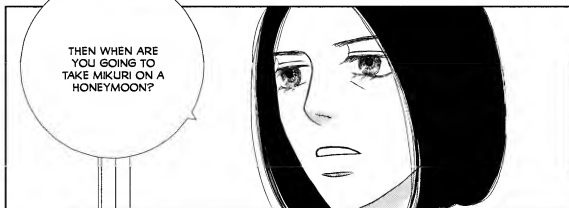
I THINK I'M GOOD.
WHY DON'T YOU GO
WITH MIKURI-SAN,
SINCE YOU'RE THE
ONE WHO WON IT
AND ALL?

HUH?!
BUT I MEAN...



YOU TWO GO.
IT CAN MAKE
UP FOR YOUR
HONEYMOON.

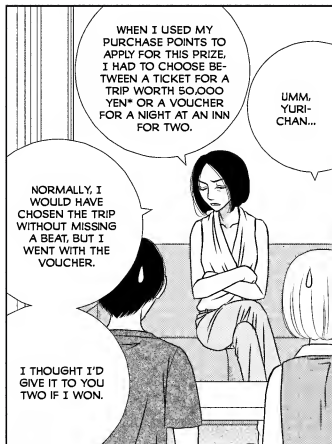
I WON IT. IT'S
FOR AN OVER-
NIGHT STAY AT
A PREMIUM INN
OF MY CHOICE
WITH MEALS
INCLUDED.



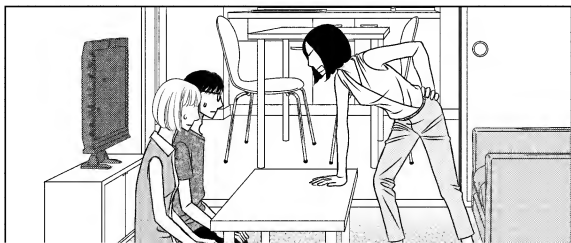
THEN WHEN ARE
YOU GOING TO
TAKE MIKURI ON A
HONEYMOON?

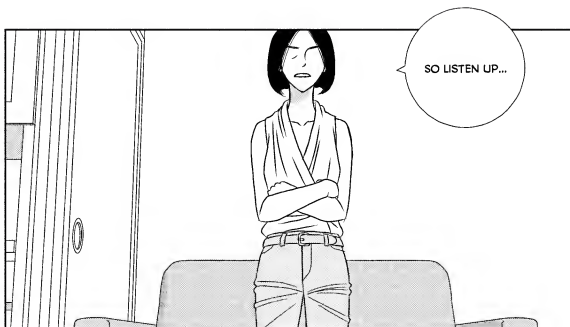


HUH?



* ABOUT \$500.





WE WENT TO ALL THAT TROUBLE TO SEEM LIKE LOVERS...



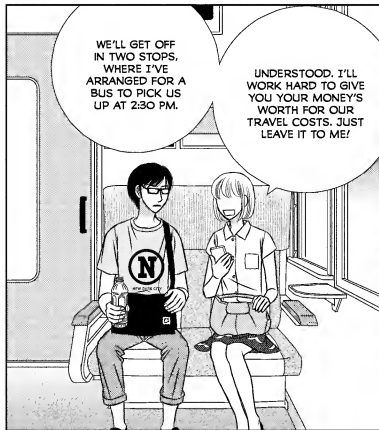
*...AND NOW WE HAVE TO GO ON
THIS RIDICULOUS HONEYMOON.*

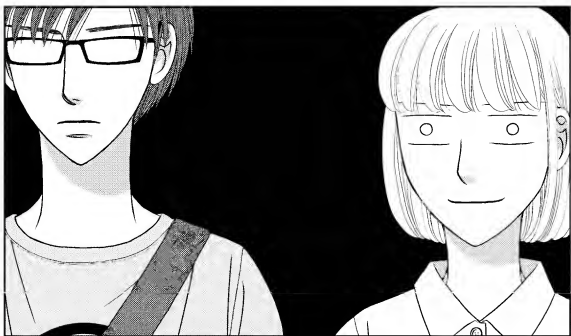


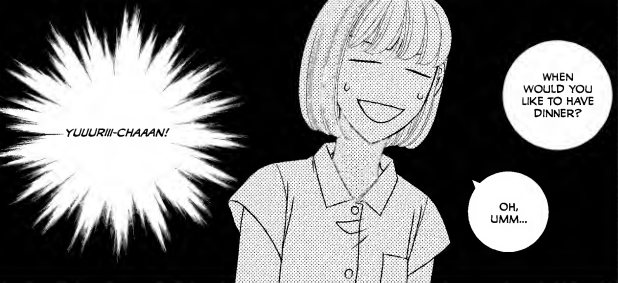
16

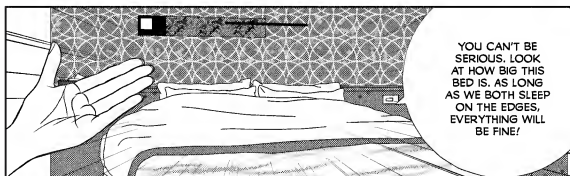
What Is Done Cannot Be Undone

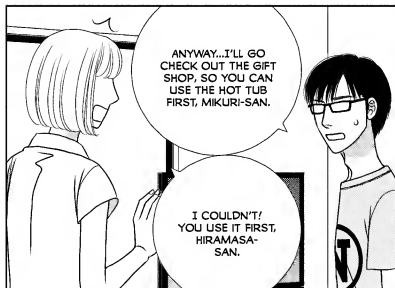








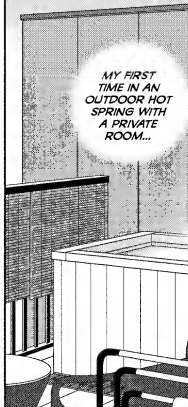






THANK YOU FOR
BEING SO PUSHY,
YURI-SAN.

OH... THIS
IS SO NICE.

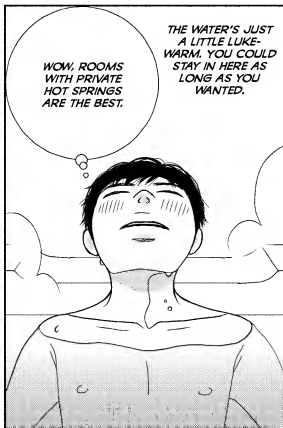


MY FIRST
TIME IN AN
OUTDOOR HOT
SPRING WITH
A PRIVATE
ROOM...



BUT I GUESS COUPLES
ARE THE ONLY ONES WHO
STAY IN ROOMS WITH
A DOUBLE BED AND A
PRIVATE HOT SPRING.

MAYBE A
COUPLE WITH
A SMALL CHILD
COULD DO IT,
TOO.



WOW, ROOMS
WITH PRIVATE
HOT SPRINGS
ARE THE BEST.

THE WATER'S JUST
A LITTLE LUKE-
WARM. YOU COULD
STAY IN HERE AS
LONG AS YOU
WANTED.



THEN THEY MIGHT END UP FOOLING AROUND YET AGAIN ONCE THEY GOT BACK IN BED, THE CYCLE IS ENDLESS!

WHOA BOY, WOULD I LIKE TO DO THAT WITH MIKURI-SAN!

DAMN, I BET A COUPLE WOULD FOOL AROUND IN THE HOT SPRING TOGETHER. THEN THEY'D FOOL AROUND AGAIN IN THE DOUBLE BED. AFTER THAT, THEY'D BE LIKE, "OH, WE'VE WORKED UP A SWEAT," SO THEY'D GET BACK IN THE HOT SPRING AND FOOL AROUND A THIRD TIME.



DON'T GET ALL WORKED UP, LITTLE GUY!

NO, NO, NO! THAT'S NOT RIGHT! THAT'S NOT WHAT WE CAME HERE FOR!

SPLASH

NO, NO, NO! WHAT AM I THINKING?



EVEN THE BATHROOM DOOR DOESN'T LOCK HERE.

I THINK I'LL TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO CHANGE INTO MY YUKATA, TOO.

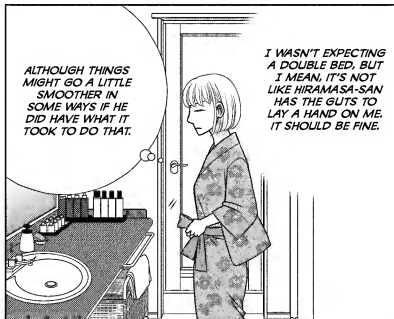


NO, NO, NO! NO, NO, NO, NO, NO!

STILL, IT'LL BE NICE IF THIS
TRIP BRINGS US A LITTLE
CLOSER TOGETHER.

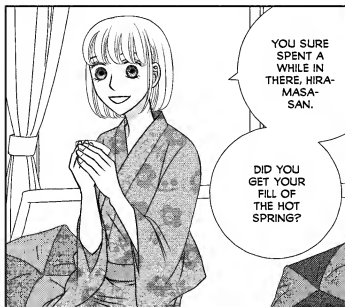
ALTHOUGH THINGS
MIGHT GO A LITTLE
SMOOTHER IN
SOME WAYS IF HE
DID HAVE WHAT IT
TOOK TO DO THAT.

I WASN'T EXPECTING
A DOUBLE BED, BUT
I MEAN, IT'S NOT
LIKE HIRAMASA-SAN
HAS THE GUTS TO
LAY A HAND ON ME.
IT SHOULD BE FINE.



I'D BE SO HAPPY...

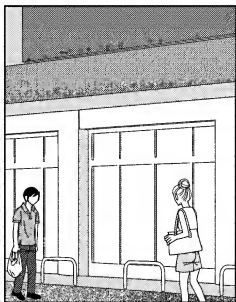
...IF HIRAMASA-SAN LET ME INTO HIS HEART.

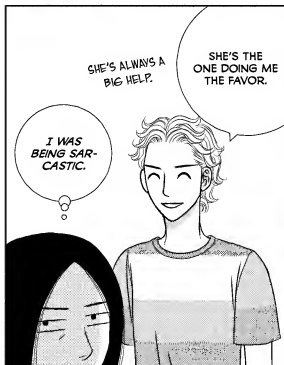


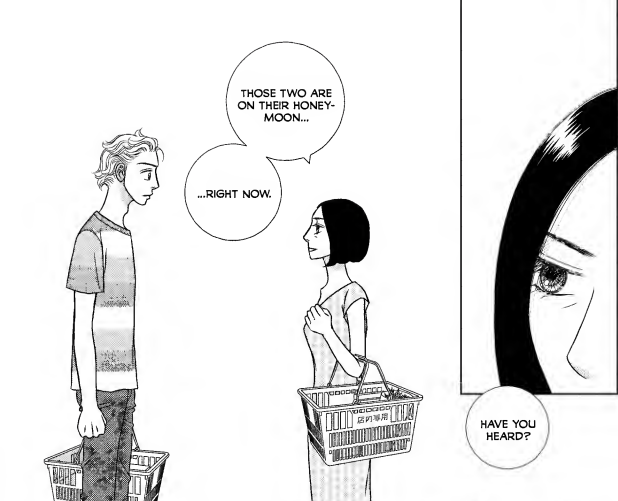
YOU SURE
SPENT A
WHILE IN
THERE, HIRA-
MASA-
SAN.

DID YOU
GET YOUR
FILL OF
THE HOT
SPRING?







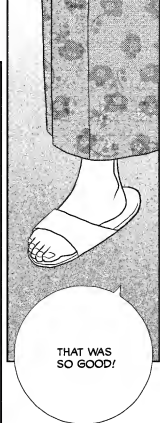






YEAH, WE NEED
TO BUY HER A
SOUVENIR.

WE SHOULD
MAKE SURE
TO THANK
YURI-SAN.

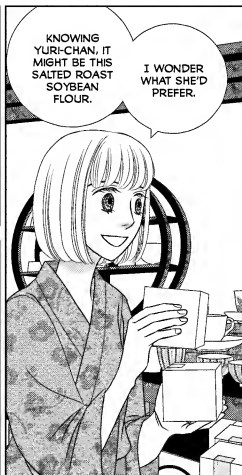


THAT WAS
SO GOOD!



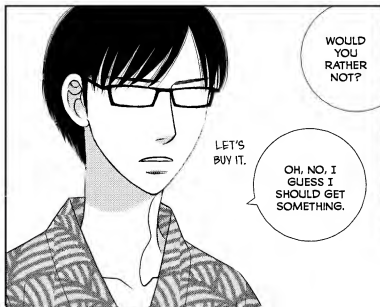
WAIT,
FOR MY
OFFICE?

WHAT DO YOU
THINK ABOUT
BUYING THIS
BLACK SOY BEAN
DORAYAKI FOR
YOUR OFFICE?



KNOWING
YURI-CHAN, IT
MIGHT BE THIS
SALTED ROAST
SOYBEAN
FLOUR.

I WONDER
WHAT SHE'D
PREFER.

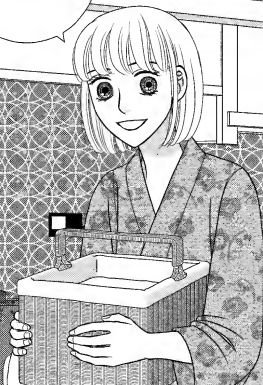


WOULD
YOU
RATHER
NOT?

LET'S
BUY IT.

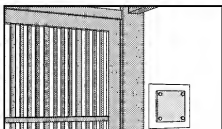
OH, NO. I
GUESS I
SHOULD GET
SOMETHING.

WELL, I'LL BE
GETTING IN THE
HOT SPRING
NOW.



THAT'S
MIKURI-
SAN FOR
YOU.

IT HADN'T
OCCURRED TO
BUY SOMETHING
FOR THE OFFICE.



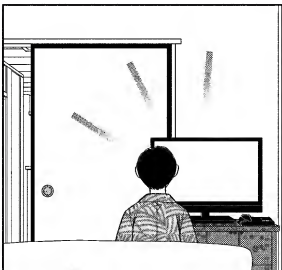
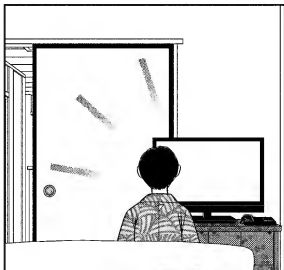
ガラリ
スライド
パン
ツ



ENJOY
YOUR DIP.

THANK
YOU! HERE
I GO.





SHE WON'T GET
OUT OF MY HEAD.
I CAN'T FOCUS ON
THE TV AT ALL.



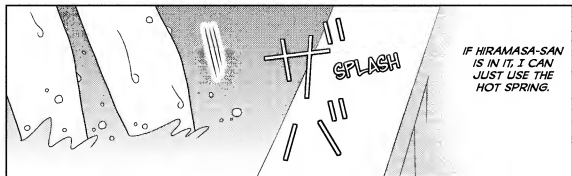
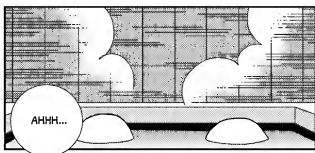
I CAN'T HELP
BUT PICTURE
WHAT I HEAR!

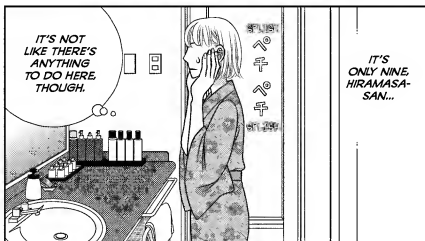
GAAAH! WHY
AM I SHUTTING
MYSELF IN THE
BATHROOM WHILE
I'M AT A HOT
SPRING?

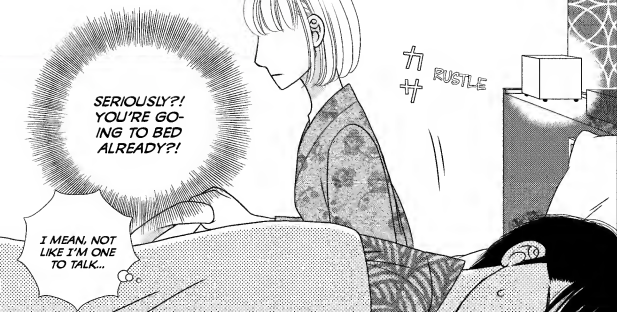


ドキ BUMP
ビクウツ
TWITCH

スサツ
スサツ
スサツ







SERIOUSLY?!
YOU'RE GO-
ING TO BED
ALREADY?!

I MEAN, NOT
LIKE I'M ONE
TO TALK...

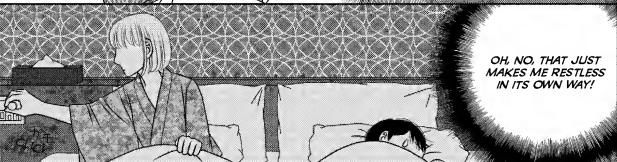
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RUSTLE



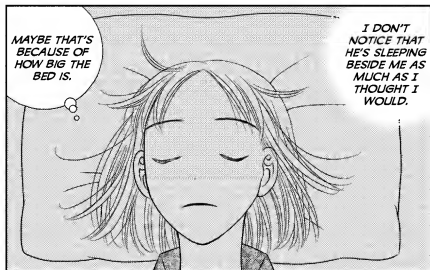
HEY,
ARE YOU
ASLEEP?
HE HE.

I'M SHARING
A ROOM
WITH NUMA-
TA-SAN ON
A COMPANY
OUTING...

NUMATA-SAN! I
HAVE TO THINK
OF NUMATA-SAN.



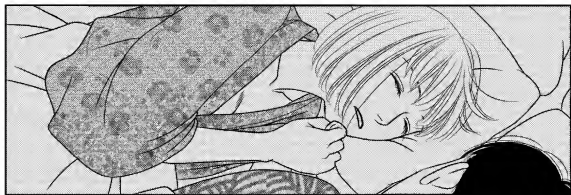
OH, NO. THAT JUST
MAKES ME RESTLESS
IN ITS OWN WAY!

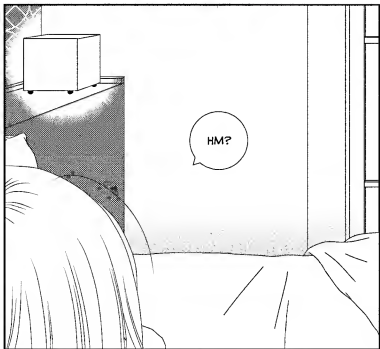
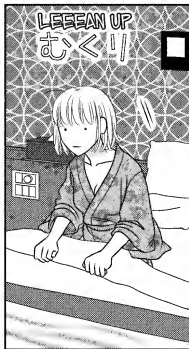
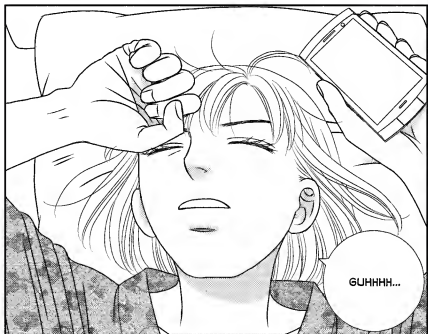


MAYBE THAT'S
BECAUSE OF
HOW BIG THE
BED IS.

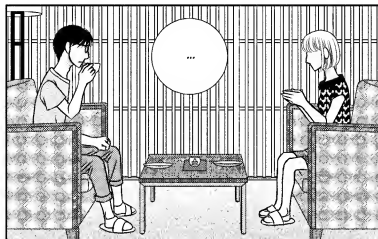
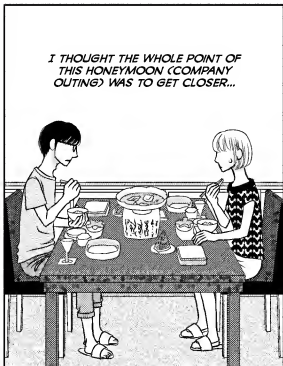
I DON'T
NOTICE THAT
HE'S SLEEPING
BESIDE ME AS
MUCH AS I
THOUGHT I
WOULD.

OH.



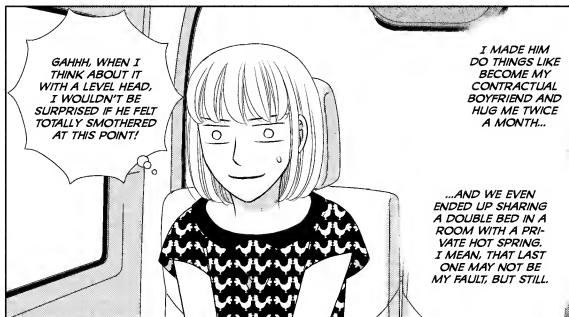


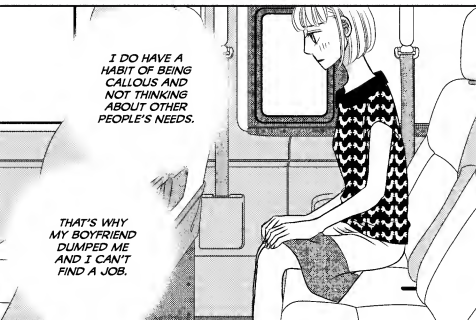






MAYBE I PUSHED A LITTLE TOO HARD.





I DO HAVE A
HABIT OF BEING
CALLOUS AND
NOT THINKING
ABOUT OTHER
PEOPLE'S NEEDS.

THAT'S WHY
MY BOYFRIEND
DUMPED ME
AND I CAN'T
FIND A JOB.

UGH...

THIS IS NO
GOOD.

HIRAMASA-SAN DOESN'T ACT
LIKE HE WANTS ANY OF THIS...

...SO MAYBE I'M JUST FORCING
MY DESIRES ON HIM.

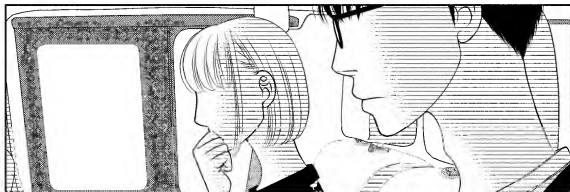
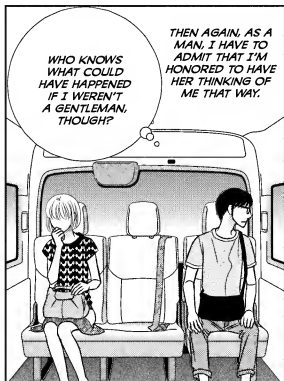


MY GOD...

MIKURI-SAN...

OH,
DAMN.

I MIGHT
CRY AT
THIS RATE.



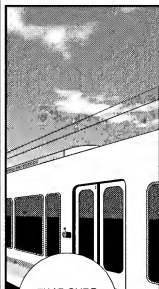
HMM...

THIS SILENCE...

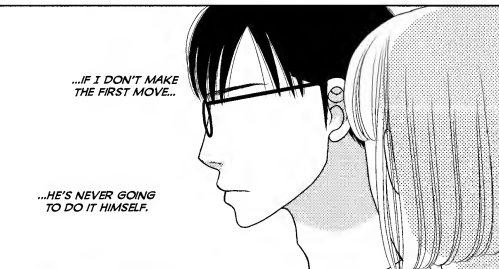


PLEASE LET
YURI-SAN KNOW I
SAID THANK YOU.

OKAY...



THAT SURE
WAS A NICE
INN.

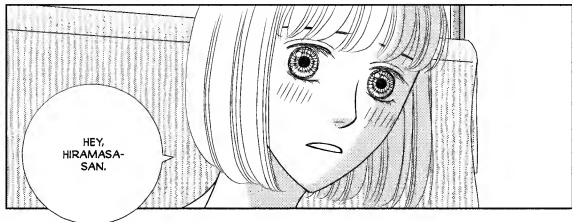


...IF I DON'T MAKE
THE FIRST MOVE...

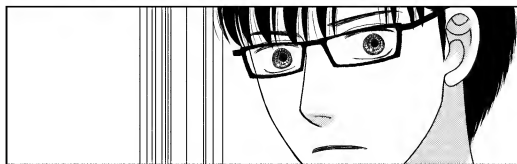
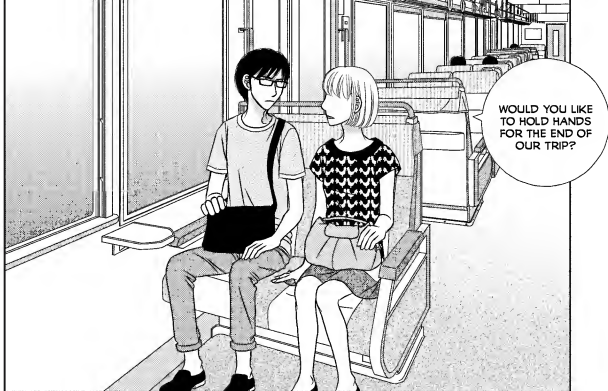
...HE'S NEVER GOING
TO DO IT HIMSELF.

STILL...

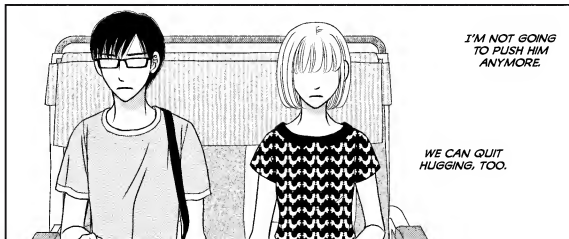
AT THE END
OF THE DAY...



HEY,
HIRAMASA-
SAN.

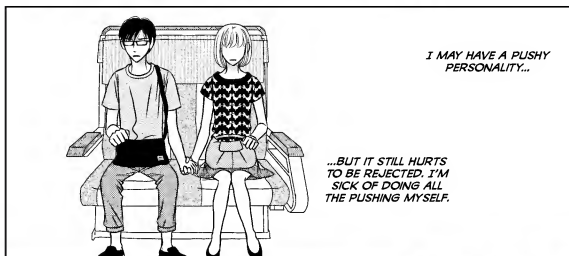






*I'M NOT GOING
TO PUSH HIM
ANYMORE.*

*WE CAN QUIT
HUGGING, TOO.*



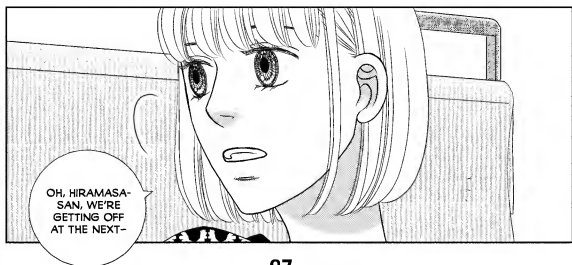
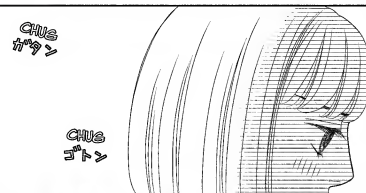
*I MAY HAVE A PUSHY
PERSONALITY...*

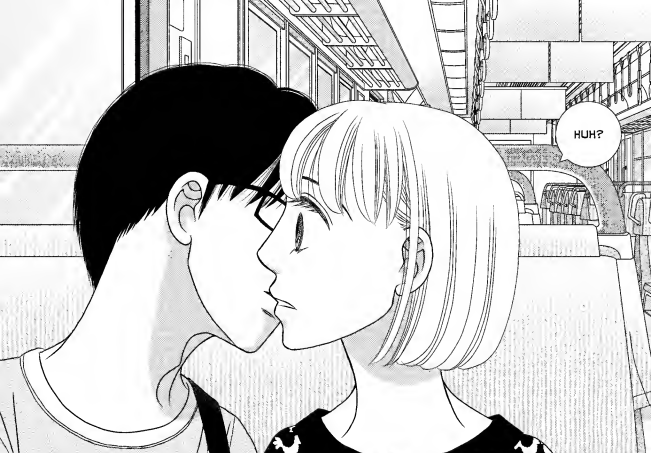
*...BUT IT STILL HURTS
TO BE REJECTED. I'M
SICK OF DOING ALL
THE PUSHING MYSELF.*



THAT IS TO SAY, I'M SAD.

I'M JUST SAD...

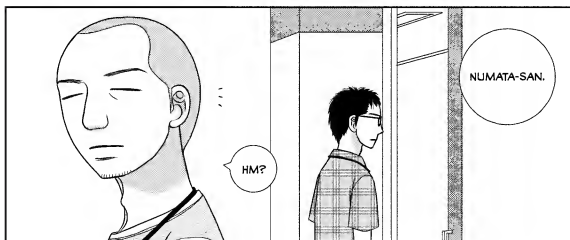
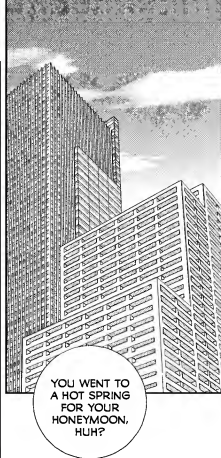


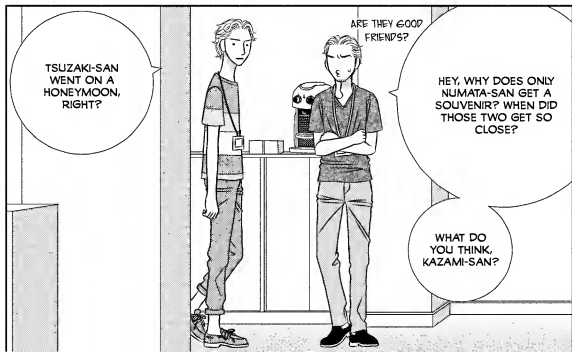
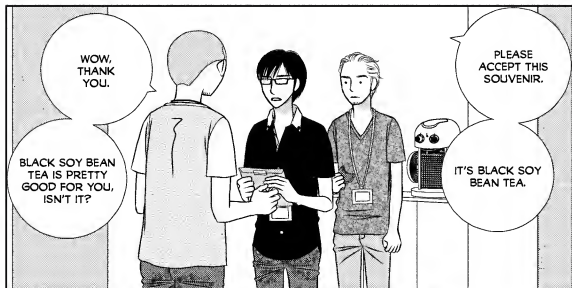


17

Better Left Unsaid



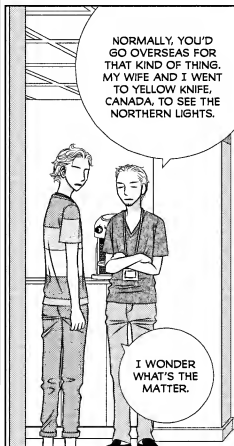






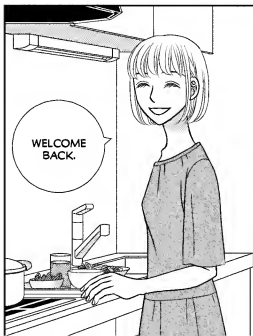
IT SEEMS LIKE
TSUZAKI-SAN
IS BACK TO HIS
OLD HABIT...

...OF WEARING
DARK CLOTHES.

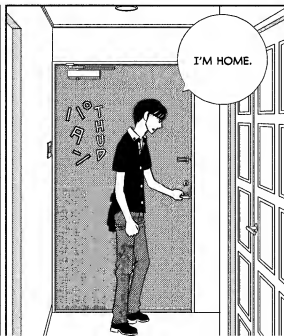


NORMALLY, YOU'D
GO OVERSEAS FOR
THAT KIND OF THING.
MY WIFE AND I WENT
TO YELLOW KNIFE,
CANADA, TO SEE THE
NORTHERN LIGHTS.

I WONDER
WHAT'S THE
MATTER.



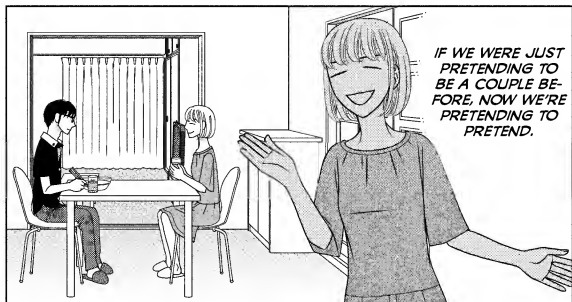
WELCOME
BACK.



I'M HOME.



*ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT. YOUR ATTENTION,
PLEASE. OVER HERE, EVERYONE.*

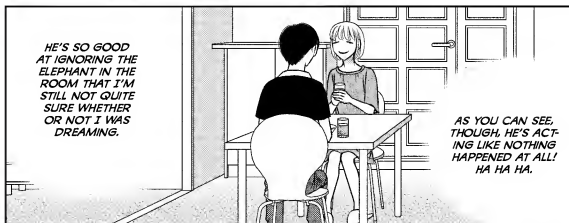




...BUT THAT DIDN'T
STOP HIM FROM
SUDDENLY KISSING
ME OUT OF NOWHERE
YESTERDAY. HE MAY
NOT LOOK IT, BUT
WHAT A PERV, RIGHT?



CHECK OUT THIS
FOUR-EYES, PEOPLE.
HE'S MY BOSS...



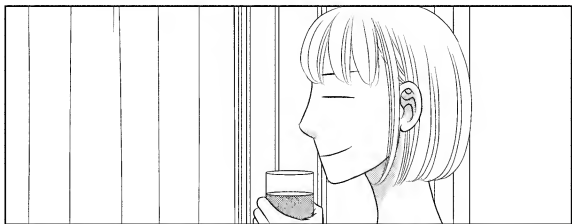
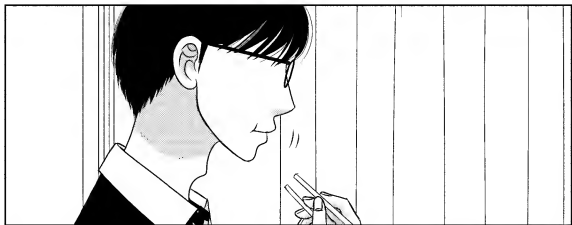
HE'S SO GOOD
AT IGNORING THE
ELEPHANT IN THE
ROOM THAT I'M
STILL NOT QUITE
SURE WHETHER
OR NOT I WAS
DREAMING.

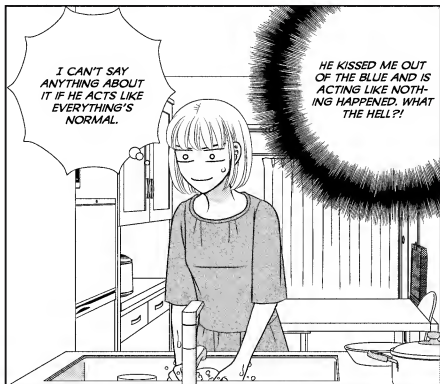
AS YOU CAN SEE,
THOUGH, HE'S ACT-
ING LIKE NOTHING
HAPPENED AT ALL!
HA HA HA.



HELL, I'M STARTING
TO THINK THIS WHOLE
CONTRACTUAL
MARRIAGE OF OURS
MAY HAVE BEEN ONE
LONG DAYDREAM.

I MEAN, I
DO HAVE A
HABIT OF DAY-
DREAMING,
DON'T I?





I CAN'T SAY
ANYTHING ABOUT
IT IF HE ACTS LIKE
EVERYTHING'S
NORMAL.

HE KISSED ME OUT
OF THE BLUE AND IS
ACTING LIKE NOTH-
ING HAPPENED. WHAT
THE HELL?!



DID THAT GIVE
YOU A RUSH?

GOD, COME
ON! WHAT THE
HELL?

IF IT WERE KAZAMI-SAN,
I'D WONDER IF HE WERE
TOYING WITH ME OR
USING SOME KIND OF
PICK-UP TECHNIQUE,
BUT HIRAMASA-SAN'S A
DIFFERENT STORY.

HE'S PROB-
ABLY JUST
RUNNING
AWAY!

AS
FRICKIN'
IF!!



DO YOU KNOW
HOW DANGEROUS
IT IS TO LEAVE A
FIRE UNATTENDED?!

JEEZ, IF YOU CAN'T
FOLLOW UP, DON'T
PLAY GAMES LIKE
THAT. UGH!

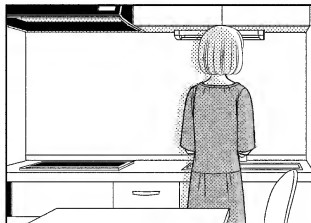
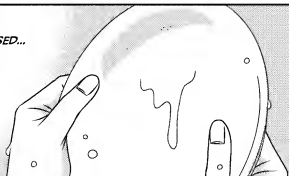
WHAT ARE YOU
GOING TO DO IF
IT SPREADS, YOU
ARSONIST?!



==
11/4
=====

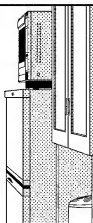
I WAS SURPRISED...

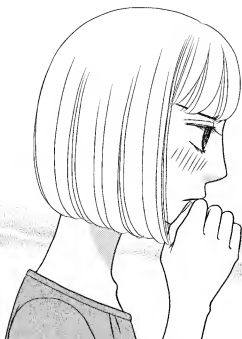
I WAS REALLY
SURPRISED...



...BUT...

...IT MADE
ME HAPPY,
Y'KNOW!





*IF YOU'RE GOING TO START
SOMETHING, YOU HAVE TO
TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR IT.*

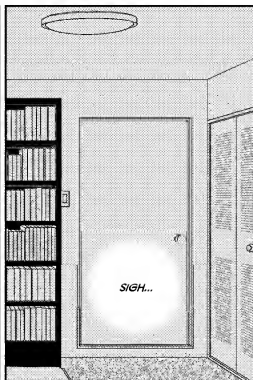
ASSHOLE...



*GIVE ME
BACK MY
THRILLS!*



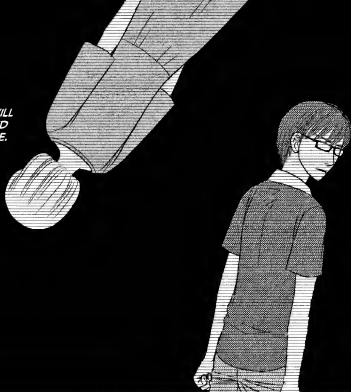
*SOMEHOW,
WE MADE IT
THROUGH TODAY
SAFELY, TOO...*



SIGH...



SOMEDAY, THIS BALANCE WILL
PROBABLY FALL APART, AND
MIKURI-SAN WILL LEAVE ME.



WHEN THAT TIME COMES, WHAT
WILL I HAVE LEFT?

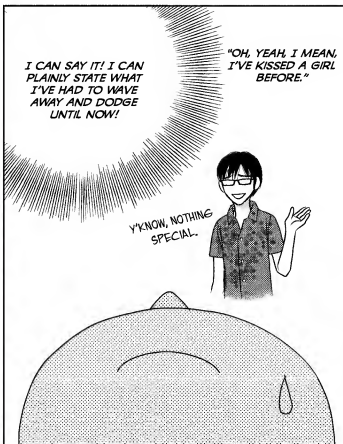
WORST-CASE SCENARIO,
AT LEAST I'LL HAVE THAT,
SO MAYBE THIS IS ALL
FOR THE BEST.

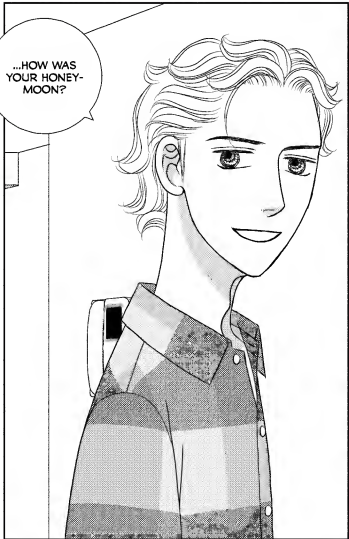
OH, THANK YOU
FOR THE MEMORY,
MIKURI-SAN...

I CAN SAY IT! I CAN
PLAINLY STATE WHAT
I'VE HAD TO WAVE
AWAY AND DODGE
UNTIL NOW!

"OH, YEAH, I MEAN,
I'VE KISSED A GIRL
BEFORE."

Y'KNOW, NOTHING
SPECIAL.





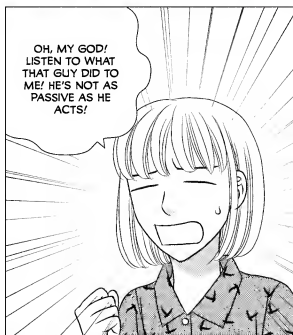
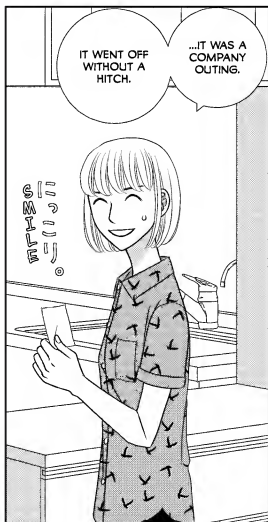
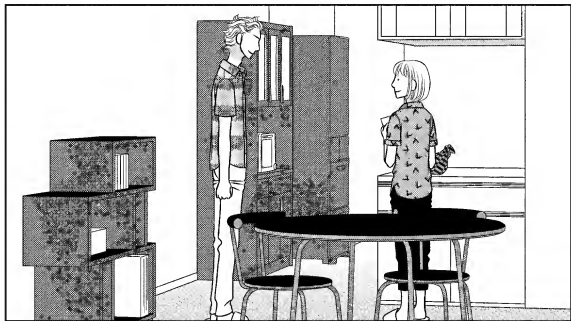
...HOW WAS
YOUR HONEY-
MOON?

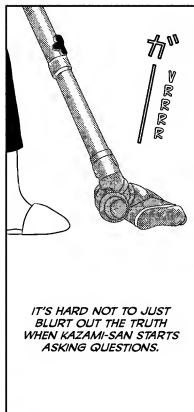


SO...

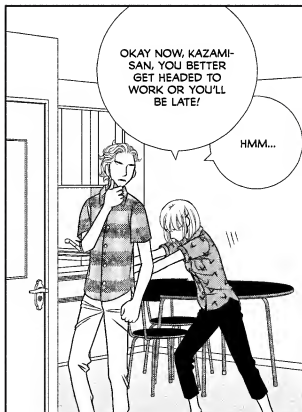


HUH?





IT'S HARD NOT TO JUST
BLURT OUT THE TRUTH
WHEN KAZAMI-SAN STARTS
ASKING QUESTIONS.



OKAY NOW, KAZAMI-SAN,
YOU BETTER
GET HEADED TO
WORK OR YOU'LL
BE LATE!

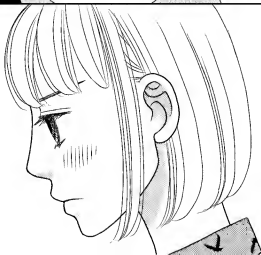
HMM...



THEN AGAIN, I
GET THE FEELING
HE COULD GIVE
ME SOME NICE
ADVICE IF I DID.

BUT HE'S HIRAMASA-
SAN'S COWORKER. I
CAN'T TALK ABOUT
HIS PRIVATE LIFE
WITH HIM.

ON TOP OF THIS SITUATION...



WHAT DO YOU PLAN ON
DOING, HIRAMASA-SAN?

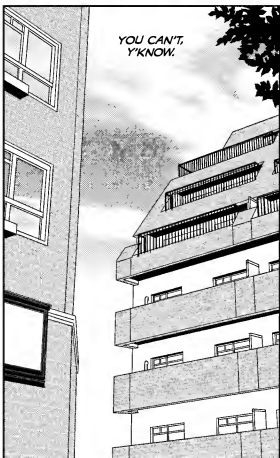
04 APRIL
THU FRI SAT
1 2
7 8 9
4 15 16
1 22 23
8 29 30

07 14 21 28 29
SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT
1 2 3 4 5 6
7 8 9 10 11 12 13
14 15 16 17 18 19 20
21 22 23 24 25 26 27
28 29 30

...OUR TWICE
MONTHLY "HUG
DAY" IS COMING
UP AGAIN SOON.

08 AUGUST
THU FRI SAT
4 5 6
1 12 13
8 19 20
5 26 27

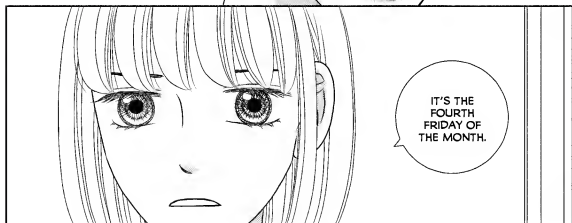
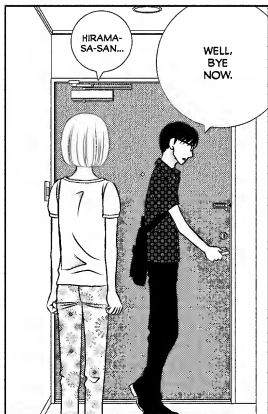
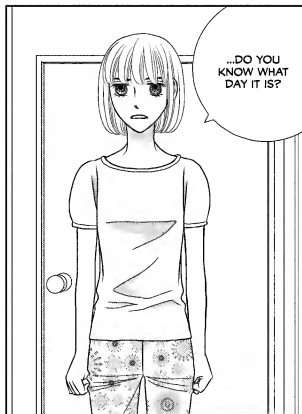
04 11 18 25
SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT
1 2 3 4 5 6
7 8 9 10 11 12 13
14 15 16 17 18 19 20
21 22 23 24 25 26 27
28 29 30

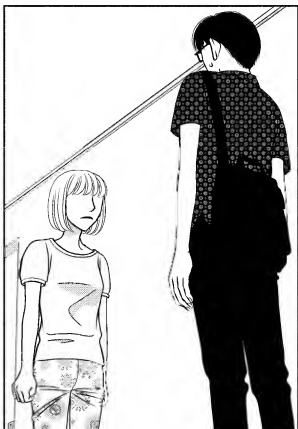


YOU CAN'T,
Y'KNOW.



DO YOU THINK
YOU CAN JUST
RUN AWAY
FOREVER?





NOT LIKE
I GIVE A
HOOT!



WHATCHA
GONNA DO,
HIRAMASA?!

1111
A
1111

I COMPLETELY
FORGOT ABOUT
THIS HUG DAY
STUFF.

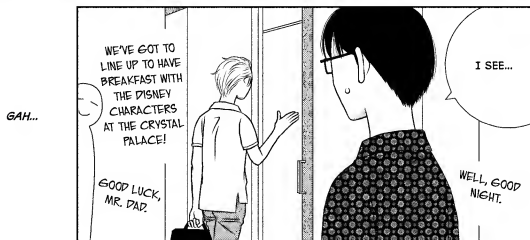
SEE YOU
LATER!

I'M
OFF!

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

MAYBE I COULD
WORK OVERTIME.
DO I HAVE ANY
OTHER CHOICE?







TSUZAKI-KUN...

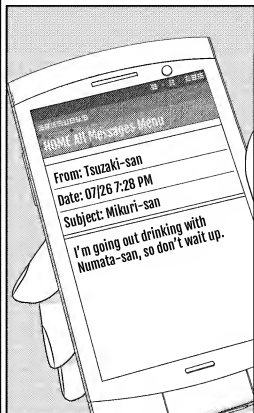
GIVEN THE SITUATION,
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO
FACE HER FOR A HUG?

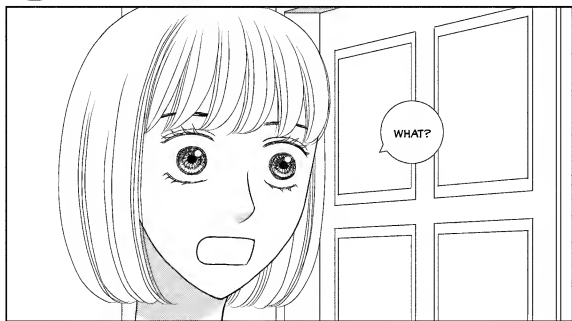
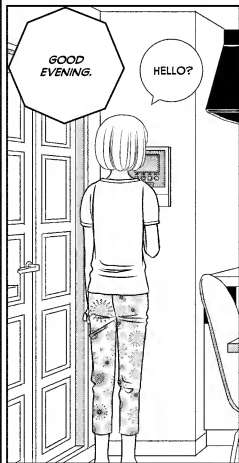


NUMATA-
SAN...

...I'M GETTING
TOGETHER FOR
DRINKS WITH SOME
COOL PEOPLE
TONIGHT. WANNA
COME?









HMM?

...WHAT KIND OF
GET-TOGETHER
IS THIS GOING
TO BE?



NUMATA-
SAN...



HE HE
フフ

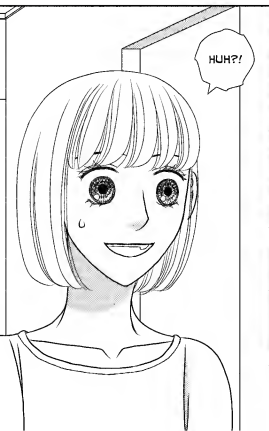
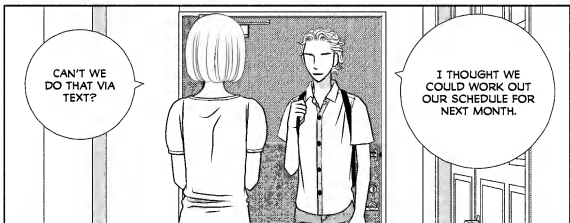
IT'S GAY
NIGHT.



IT'LL BE
FUN!

WHAT?!

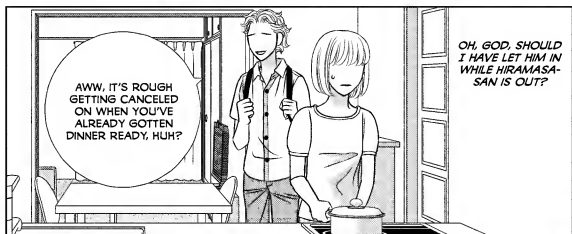
Chapter 18

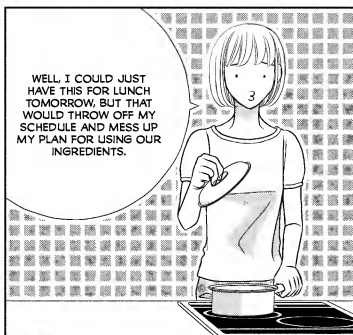
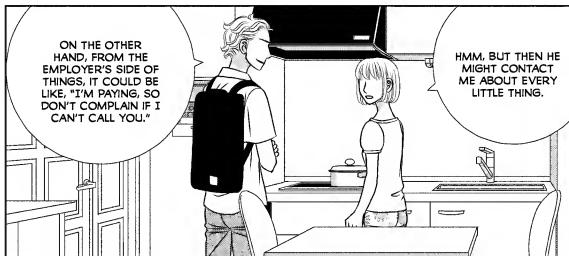


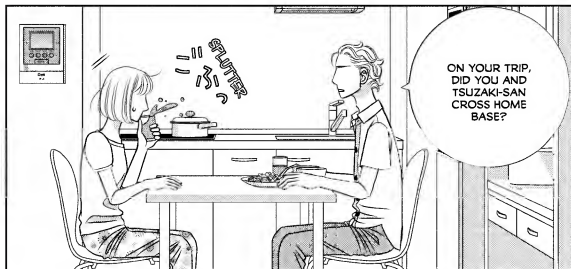
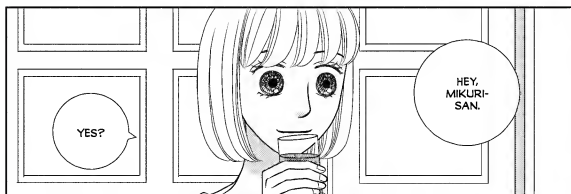
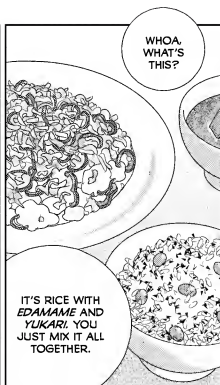
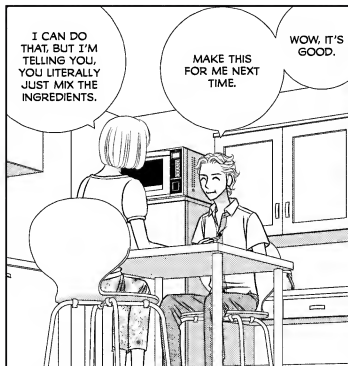
18

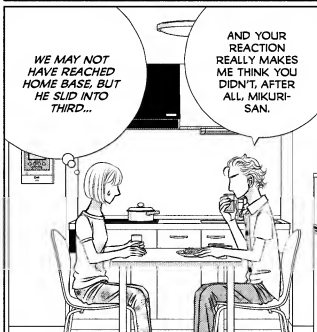
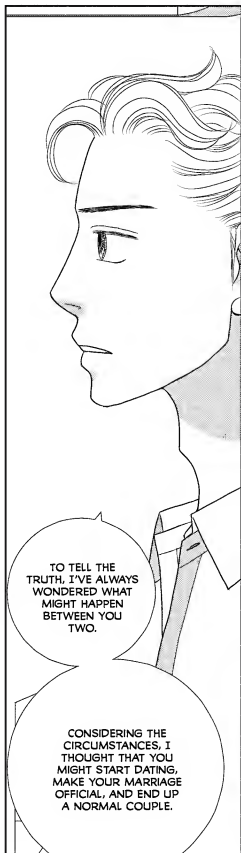
Still Waters Run Deep

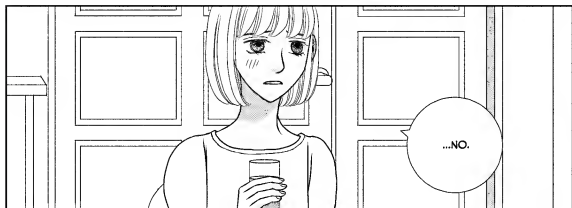
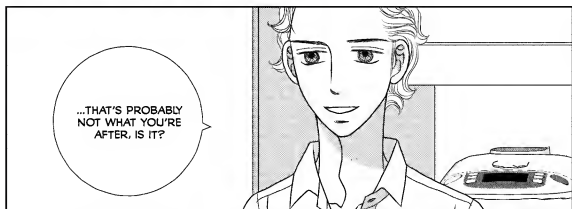
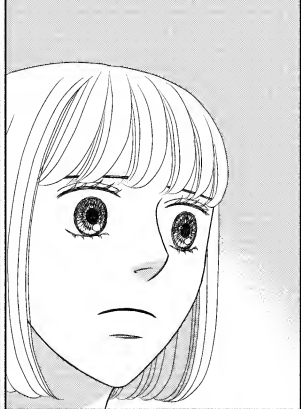
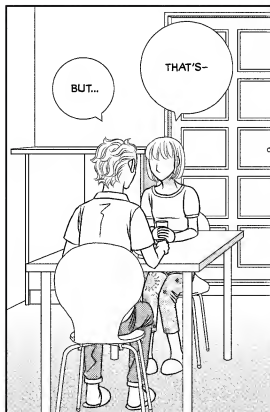


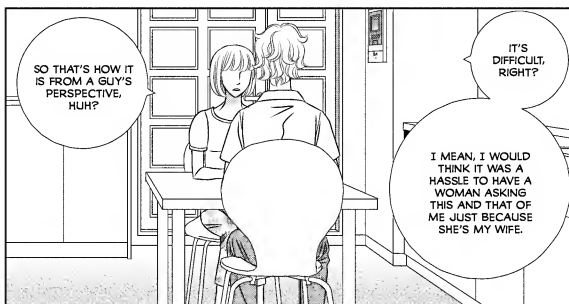
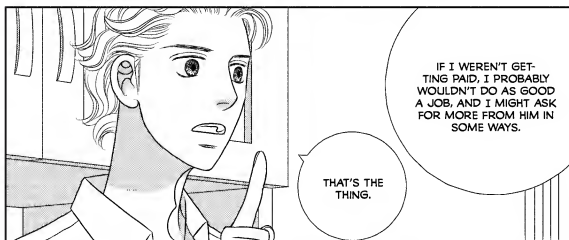
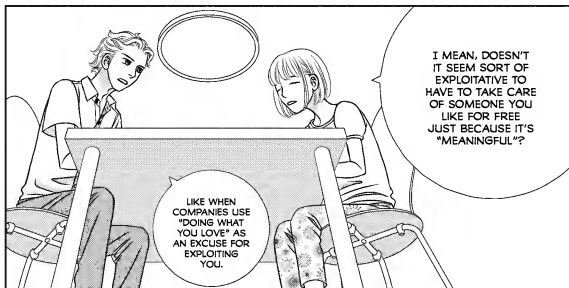


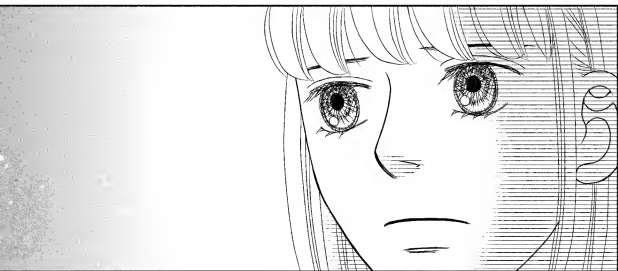
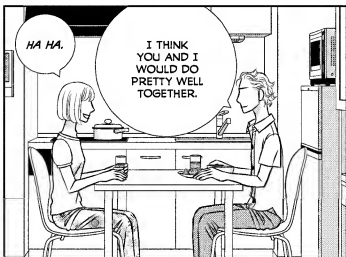
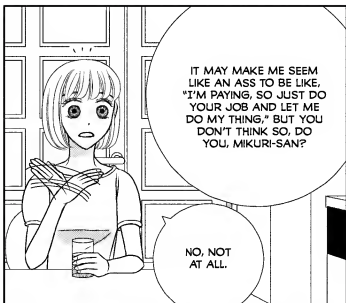
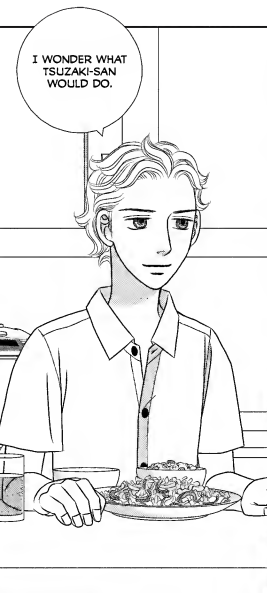




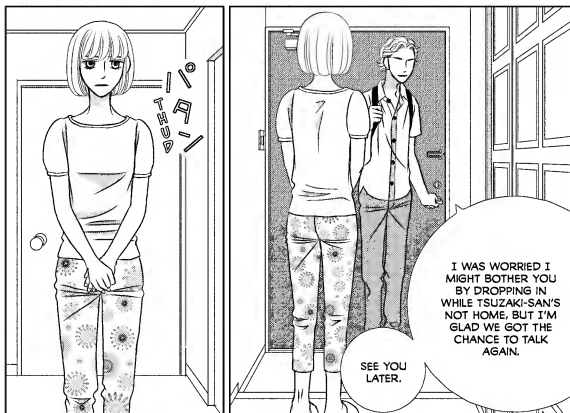
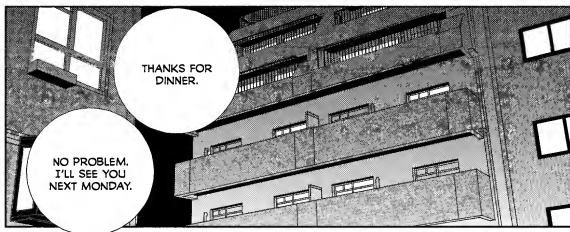








WHAT WILL HE DO?





IF WE REALLY ENDED UP
TOGETHER LIKE THAT AND
MADE OUR MARRIAGE
OFFICIAL, I THINK HE
WOULD TRY TO FULFILL
HIS RESPONSIBILITIES AS
MY HUSBAND.

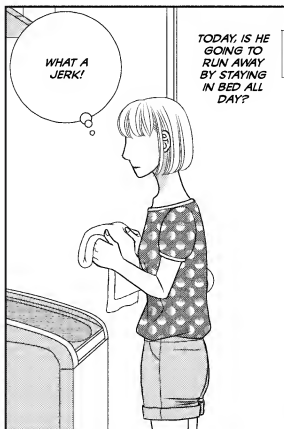
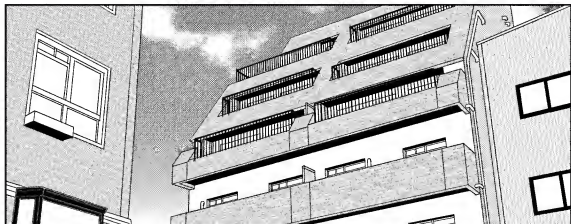
THEN, WOULD I
REALLY BE ABLE
TO ASK HIM FOR
MORE MONEY?

HIRAMASA-SAN'S NOT AS
STRICTLY LOGICAL A PERSON
AS KAZAMI-SAN IS.



GOD! HOW ARE
WE SUPPOSED
TO PROCEED
FROM HERE?!

BUT THAT ASIDE,
HE'S GOT HIS
TAIL BETWEEN
HIS LEGS OVER A
KISS. JUST COME
ON AND DO
SOMETHING!



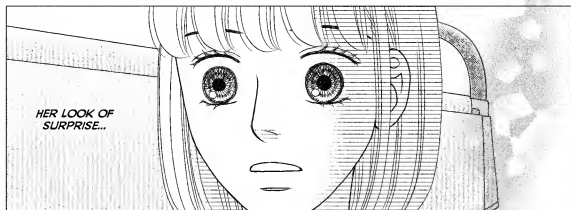




THE TOUCH OF HER HAND...

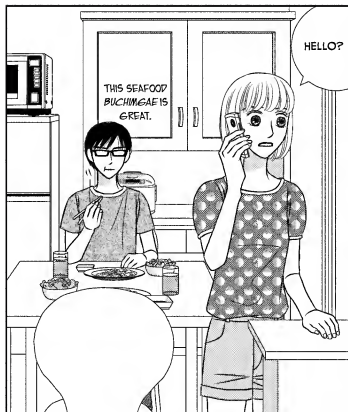


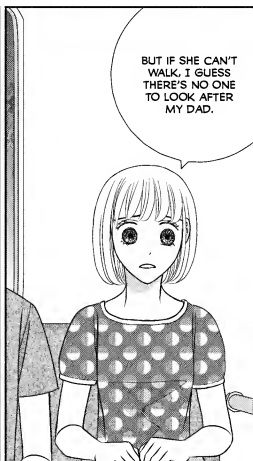
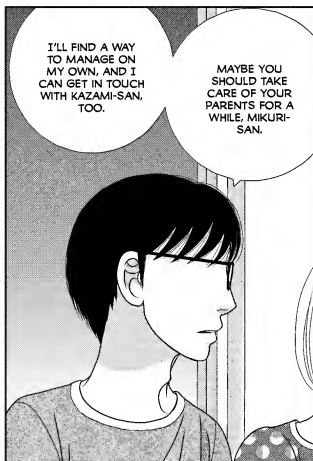
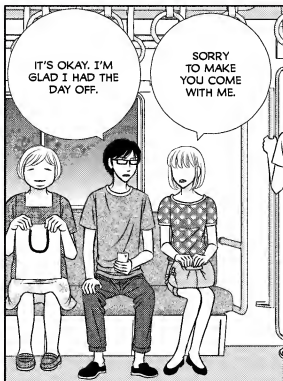
HER FACE
FROM BESIDE
HER...

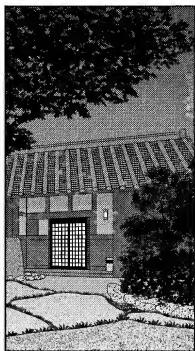
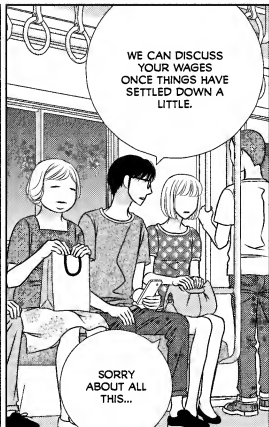


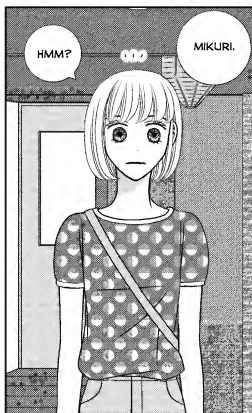
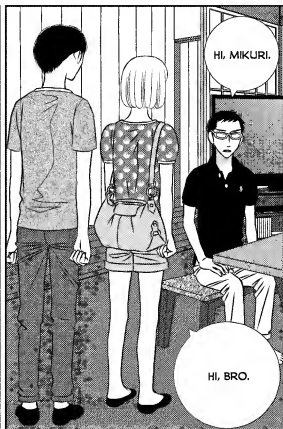
...BUT IT WAS SO NICE.

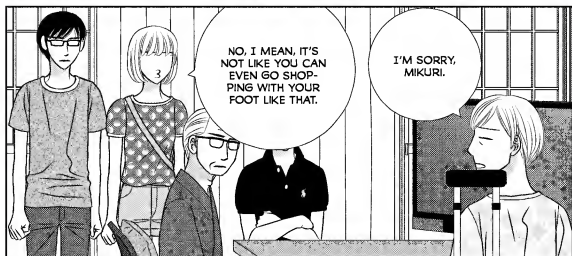




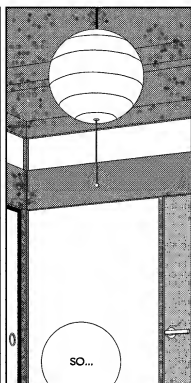


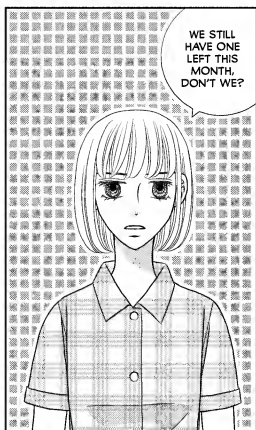








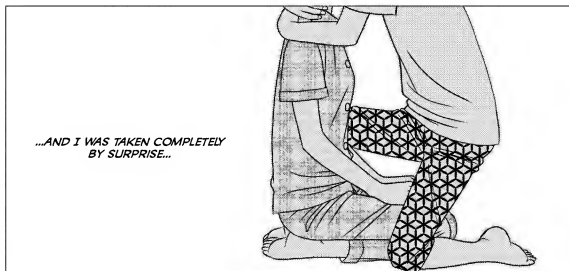








HE HUGGED ME MUCH MORE STRONGLY THAN I EXPECTED...

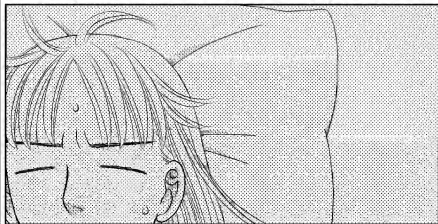
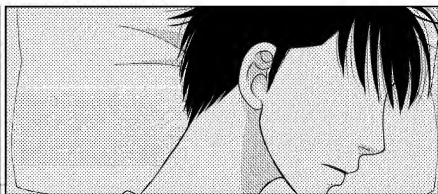


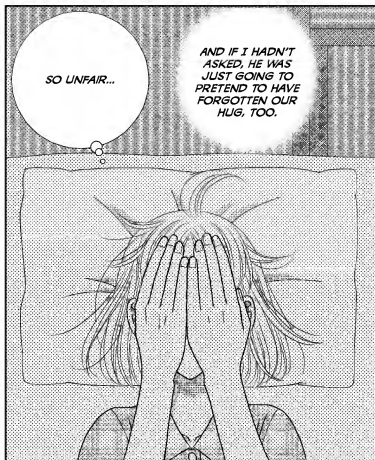
*I CAN'T
SLEEP!*

*...WHICH SENT
MY HEART
AFLUTTER.*



*GOD, THIS IS SO
UNFAIR...*





SO UNFAIR...

AND IF I HADN'T
ASKED, HE WAS
JUST GOING TO
PRETEND TO HAVE
FORGOTTEN OUR
HUG, TOO.

HE WON'T EVEN TELL ME
WHAT THAT KISS WAS
ALL ABOUT. HE JUST
PRETENDS IT NEVER
HAPPENED.

HE'S SO WEAK. HE'S SO UNFAIR TO ME...



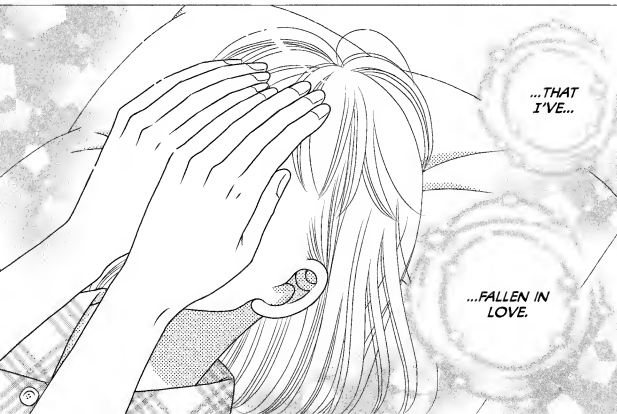
...BUT HE'S SO KIND
AND RELIABLE. HE'S
MY EMPLOYER.

THAT
PROBABLY
MEANS...

...HE'S SO DEAR TO ME,
FLAWS AND ALL.

HE CAN BE SUCH
A HASSLE...

...BUT STILL...



...THAT
I'VE...

...FALLEN IN
LOVE.



I DIDN'T
MEAN TO...

...BUT I'VE
ENDED UP
LIKING HIRA-
MASA-SAN
THAT WAY.

DAMN...



...PHYSICAL
INTIMACY
IS SOME
POWERFUL
STUFF.

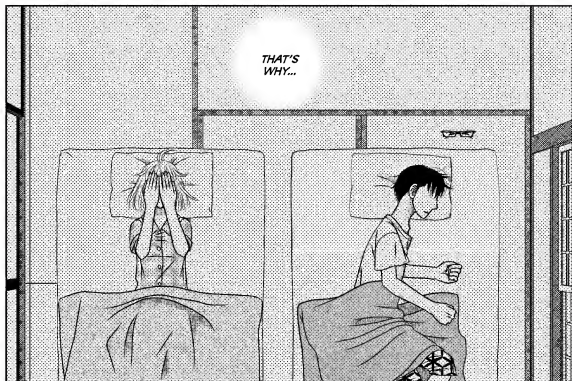
I DON'T
FEEL THE
SLIGHTEST
BIT UNEASY
ANYMORE.



*I DON'T
WANT TO
LOSE HER.*



*I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE
OKAY IF I ENDED UP LEFT WITH
NOTHING BUT MEMORIES, BUT
THAT'S NOT TRUE.*



*...I'LL TRY TO KEEP OUR MARRIAGE-AS-A-JOB
EXACTLY AS IT IS NOW...*

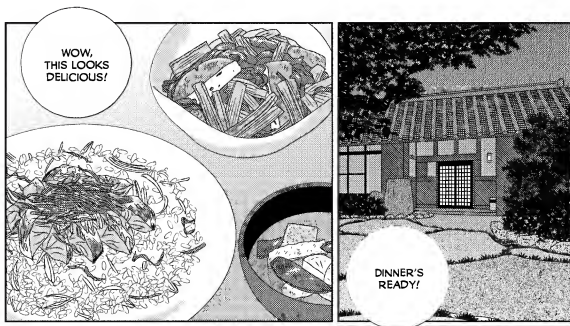


...FOR AS LONG AS I CAN.

19

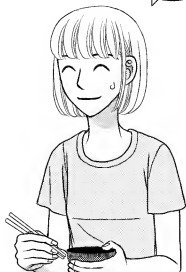
The Style Is the Man





OF COURSE, HE'S
PAYING ME, SO
I JUST GRIT MY
TEETH AND EAT
THE BOTCH JOBS
MYSELF ON THE
DOWN LOW.

NO, HE'LL EAT
ANYTHING.



OH, DON'T WORRY
ABOUT THAT. JUST
SERVE IT TO HIM!

I MEAN, SOMETIMES
I MESS UP AND HAVE
TO START OVER.



IS TSUZAKI-KUN
PICKY ABOUT
HIS FOOD?

THAT'S
TRUE...

HE PROBABLY
COULDN'T. HE
WOULDN'T KNOW
HOW TO CUT THE
VEGETABLES OR
HOW LONG TO
COOK IT FOR.



I JUST REMEM-
BERED SOME
VEGETABLES I
FORGOT IN THE
FRIDGE.

I WONDER IF
HIRAMASA-SAN
COULD COOK
OKONOMIYAKI!
HIMSELF? ALL YOU
HAVE TO DO IS MIX
THE INGREDIENTS
AND FRY IT UP.



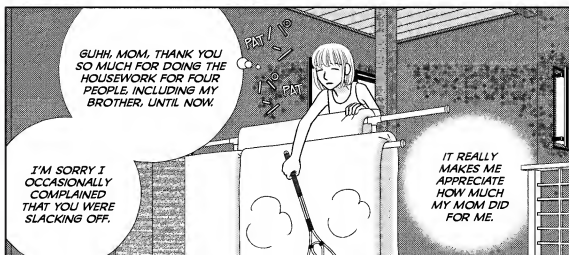
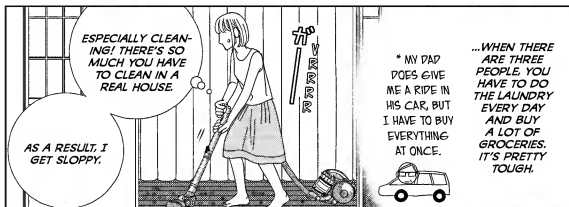
ACK!



WHAT'S
WRONG?

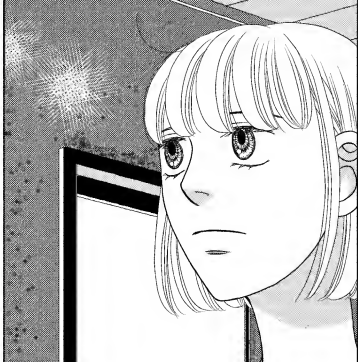


Y'KNOW...



MY MOTHER AND I MIGHT
DO THE HOUSEWORK
TOGETHER, THEN, BUT I
WOULDN'T BE GETTING
PAID A PENNY.

ぞ
わ
っ SHUDDER



IF I HADN'T GOTTEN "MARRIED" TO TSUZAKI-SAN,
I GUESS I'D PROBABLY BE LIVING HERE WITH MY
PARENTS LIKE THIS...

NOTHING LARGE-
SCALE, BUT YOU
MIGHT BE ABLE TO DO
CONTRACT FARMING*
FOR VALUABLE SPECIALTY
PRODUCE OR
SOMETHING.

IF YOU WERE
GOING TO DO
SOMETHING
HERE, WHAT
WOULD IT BE?
AGRICULTURE?



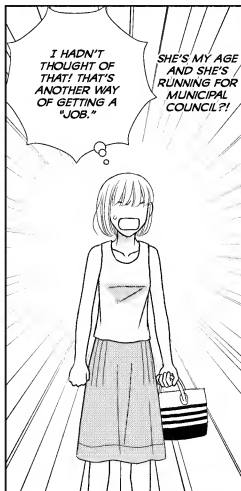
THE SEA IS
NEARBY, SO
MAYBE YOU
COULD GET
INVOLVED IN
PROCESSING
MARINE PROD-
UCTS...



I WONDER IF THERE
ARE ANY JOBS
HERE. THEY MIGHT
BE PART-TIME...

WITHOUT MY
PARENTS'
PENSIONS, WE
COULDN'T LIVE
ON THAT...

*A FORM OF FARMING IN WHICH SOMEONE CONTRACTS YOU TO
GROW THINGS LIKE VEGETABLES FOR THEM.



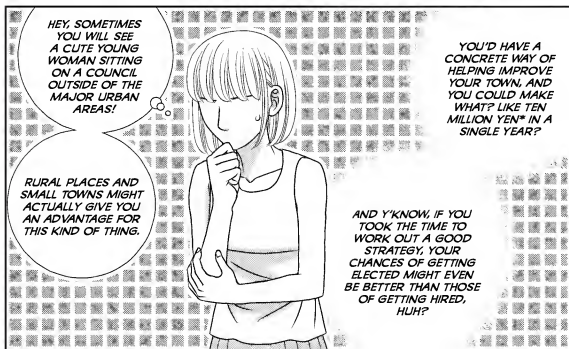
A new challenger at 26



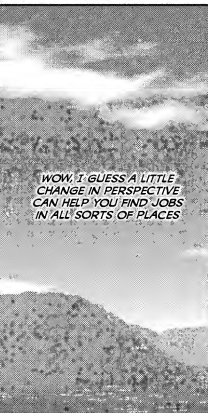
Mayu Noguchi



WHAT?!



* ABOUT \$100,000.



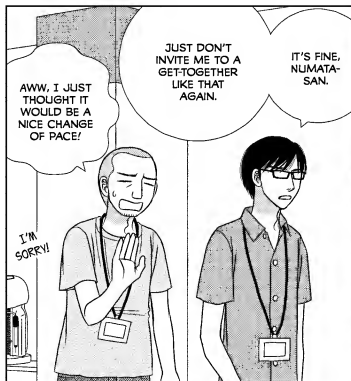
WOW, I GUESS A LITTLE
CHANGE IN PERSPECTIVE
CAN HELP YOU FIND JOBS
IN ALL SORTS OF PLACES



IF YOU JUST
WENT FOR IT ON A
WHIM, YOU WOULDN'T
HAVE ANY MONEY OR
CONNECTIONS. BUT YOU
COULD START AS ONE
OF THOSE ANNOUNCER
GIRLS AND MAKE SOME
CONNECTIONS.

AND IF YOU
COULD GET THE
PUBLIC ON YOUR
SIDE, YOU MIGHT
ACTUALLY BE
ABLE TO STAMP
OUT SEXUAL
HARASSMENT.

YOU MIGHT GET
SEXUALLY HARASSED,
BUT I SUPPOSE
THAT'S THE CASE NO
MATTER WHERE YOU
GET A JOB.



AWW, I JUST
THOUGHT IT
WOULD BE A
NICE CHANGE
OF PACE!

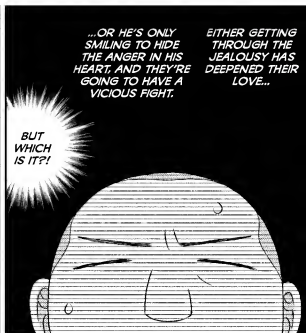
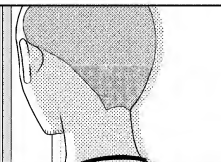
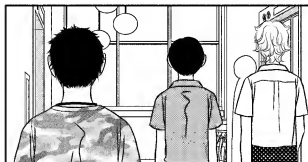
I'M
SORRY!

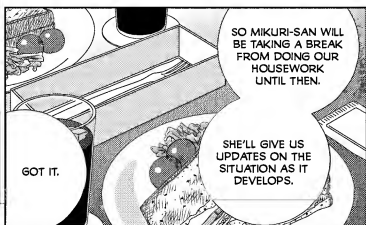
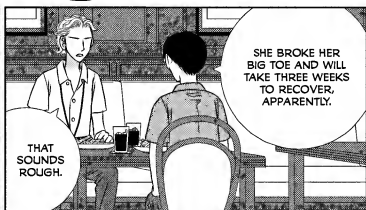
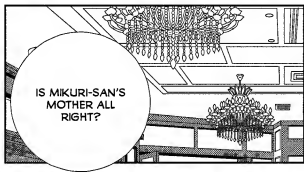
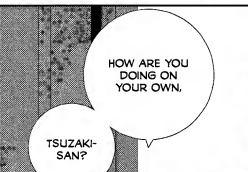
JUST DON'T
INVITE ME TO A
GET-TOGETHER
LIKE THAT
AGAIN.

IT'S FINE,
NUMATA-
SAN.



I'M REALLY
SORRY, TSUZAKI-
KUN.



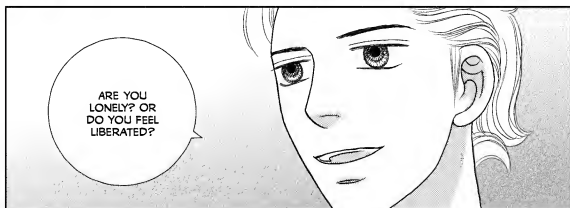




UHH, THAT'S
NOT QUITE
WHAT I
MEANT.

YESTERDAY, I
MADE MYSELF A
VEGETABLE STIR
FRY, BUT IT WAS
TOO SALTY. SO I
WASHED IT DOWN
WITH A BEER.

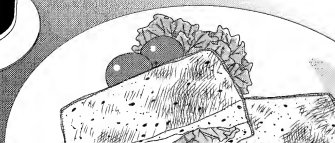
I USED TOO
MUCH WEI BA.

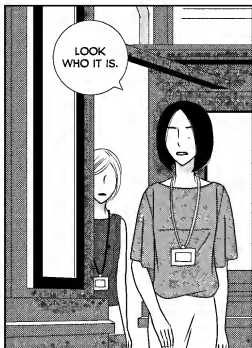


ARE YOU
LONELY? OR
DO YOU FEEL
LIBERATED?



HONESTLY?
BOTH.

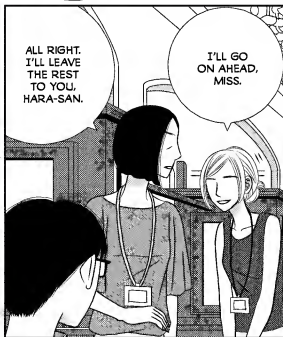


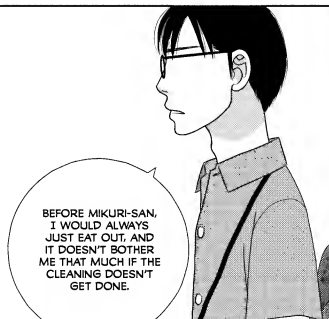


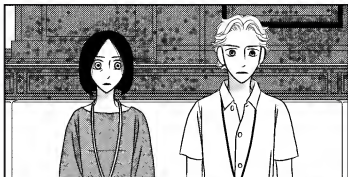


OH, YEAH! THAT'S
RIGHT. I HEARD
SAKURA BROKE A
BONE AND CAN'T
WALK.

WE WANTED TO GO SOME-
PLACE A LITTLE REMOVED
FROM WHERE WE WORK TO
DISCUSS WHAT WILL HAPPEN
FROM HERE ON OUT WITH
MIKURI-SAN.







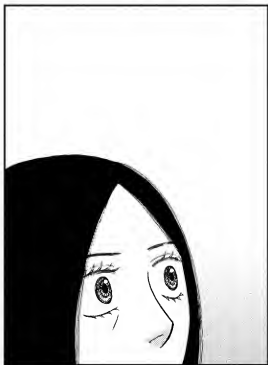
IT'S JUST...
IT FEELS LIKE WE'RE
TOGETHER EVEN WHEN
SHE'S NOT THERE.



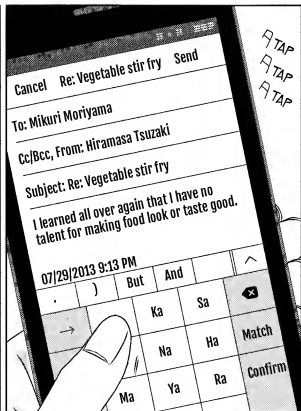
HEY, THIS IS
LOVE, ISN'T IT?

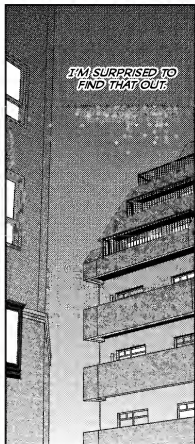
LOVE?

HUH?



YEAH...I
GUESS IT IS...





*I'M SURPRISED TO
FIND THAT OUT.*



*THESE SILLY TEXT
EXCHANGES...*

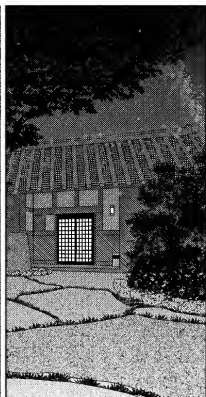
*WHEN YOU SPEND SUCH A LONG
TIME THINKING ABOUT SOMEONE,
IT STOPS MATTERING HOW FAR
APART YOU ARE.*

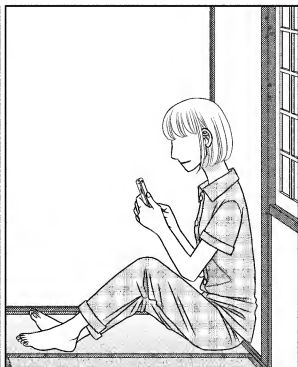
*IT STARTS TO FEEL LIKE
YOU'RE SPENDING TIME
TOGETHER ANYWAY.*



*MIKURI, LEAVE
THE BATHROOM
WINDOW OPEN!*

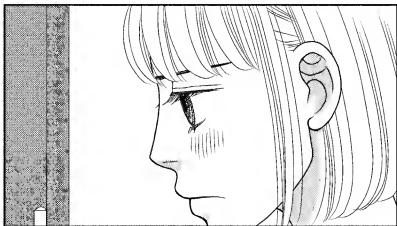
*I ALREADY DID!
GOOD NIGHT!*





*I WANT TO
ASK HIM...*

*...WHAT I COULDN'T
ASK TO HIS FACE.*



GAHHH!

*I WANT TO
ASK ABOUT
THAT KISS.*



*HEY, GIRL! ARE YOU
GONNA GET OUT OF
THAT LUKEWARM
TEXTING BATH?!*

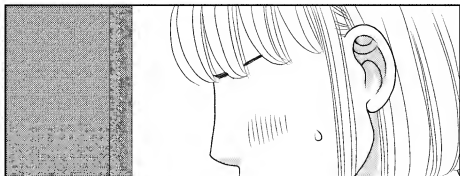
HEY!

*I CAN'T JUST RUIN OUR MUNDANE
TEXT CONVERSATION BY SUDDENLY
BRINGING THAT UP.*

*WHAT IF HE DECIDES TO
IGNORE ME AGAIN AND
STOPS TEXTING?*



BUT I MEAN...



BUT THIS IS MY CHANCE! THIS IS THE BEST OPPORTUNITY TO ASK I'M GOING TO HAVE! IT'S THE LOWEST RISK!

OHHH, MY GOD! THAT'S SCARY!

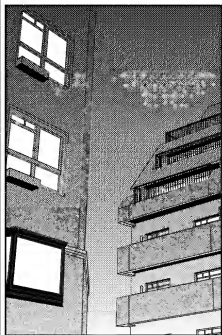


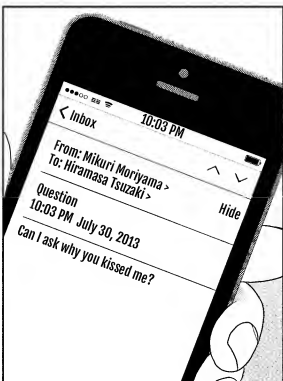
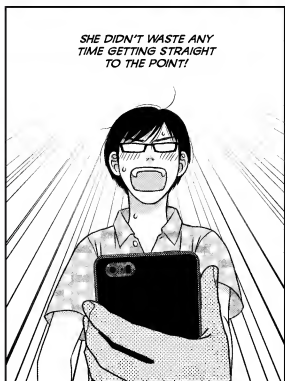
OH, MY
GOD! THAT'S
SCARY!

IT HURTS WHEN HE
AVOIDS ME WHEN WE'RE
TOGETHER, BUT MAYBE I
COULD HANDLE IT WHILE
WE'RE APART.

EVEN IF THINGS GET REALLY
AWKWARD, I WON'T BE
BACK FOR THREE WEEKS.
WE MIGHT JUST GO BACK
TO HOW THINGS WERE WITH
HIM ACTING LIKE NOTHING
HAPPENED...

EVEN IF THINGS GET REALLY
AWKWARD, I WON'T BE
BACK FOR THREE WEEKS.
WE MIGHT JUST GO BACK
TO HOW THINGS WERE WITH
HIM ACTING LIKE NOTHING
HAPPENED...







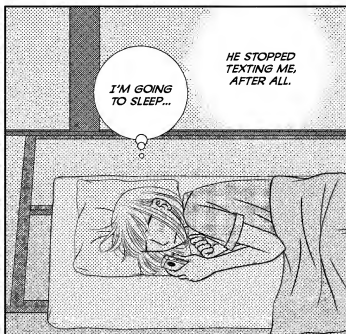
I CAN'T!

*WAIT A MINUTE,
COULD MIKURI-SAN
LIKE ME?*

*I CAN'T TELL
HER I JUST
GOT CAUGHT
UP IN MY OWN
FANTASIES!*

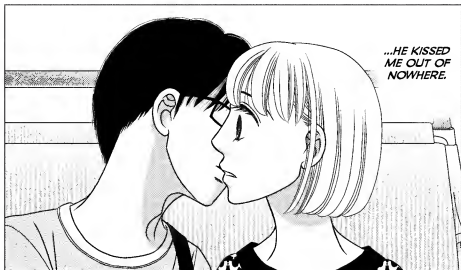
*WHY I KISSED
HER? WHAT AM
I SUPPOSED
TO SAY?*

AWW...



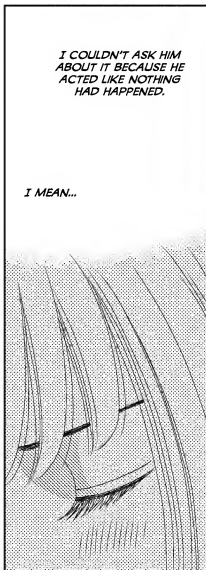
*I'M GOING
TO SLEEP...*

*HE STOPPED
TEXTING ME,
AFTER ALL.*



...HE KISSED
ME OUT OF
NOWHERE.

THAT DAY...



I COULDN'T ASK HIM
ABOUT IT BECAUSE HE
ACTED LIKE NOTHING
HAD HAPPENED.

I MEAN...



TIME TO
CHANGE
TRAINS.

I WAS STILL
TAKEN ABACK
WHEN HE WAS
LIKE...



AFTER THAT,
HIRAMASA-SAN
WENT TO SLEEP
AND JUST SORT
OF STAYED THAT
WAY.

BUT I'M SURE HE
WAS FAKING IT.



IT HURTS!

OHHH, GOD! I
DIDN'T WANT TO
FACE THE TRUTH!

...IF HE WANTS TO
ACT LIKE NOTHING
HAPPENED...

...THAT MUST MEAN HE
REGRETS IT, RIGHT?

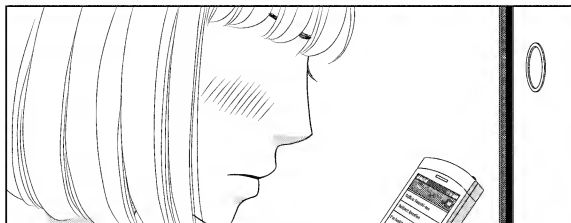
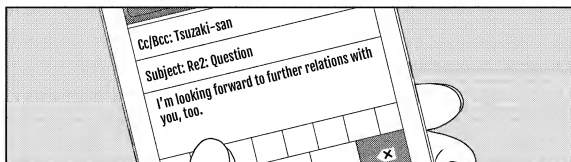
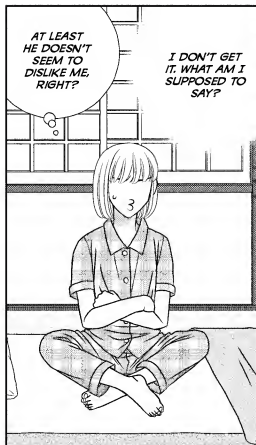


GOD, WHAT
SHOULD I DO?
WHAT SHOULD
I SAY?

THERE'S NO WAY I
CAN TELL HER THE
TRUTH.



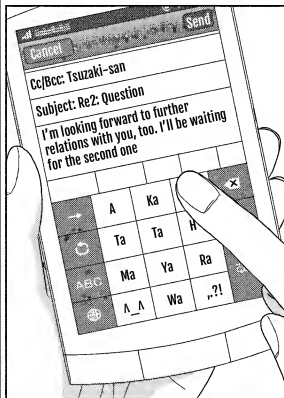
I DON'T
FEEL LIKE I
SLEPT.





NO, NO, NO,
NO, NO!

THERE'S NO
WAY I CAN
SEND THAT!



BEFORE I STARTED SERIOUSLY
LIKING HIM, I COULD TELL
HIRAMASA-SAN HOW I FELT
ABOUT HIM NO PROBLEM.

BUT NOW THAT I LIKE
LIKE HIM, I'M WAY TOO
SCARED TO SAY IT.



HIRAMASA-SAN, I WAS HAPPY...

...THAT YOU KISSED ME.



I WONDER IF I
TOLD HIM HOW
MUCH I LIKED HIM
ENOUGH. I THINK
I TOLD HIM OCCA-
SIONALLY.

I GUESS YOU HAVE
TO MAKE SURE TO
GET IT ALL OUT
WHEN YOU'RE STILL
AT THE STAGE OF
LIKING SOMEONE
JUST A LITTLE.



I JUST CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO SAY IT...



"IT COULD
COUNT AS
A FORM OF
PHYSICAL
INTIMACY?"

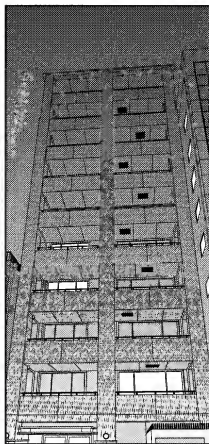
THIS IS AN EMOTIONAL
ROLLERCOASTER.

AND I WAS DOING MY
BEST TO AVOID THIS
KIND OF THING, TOO.



OH, NO. I'LL
GET CAUGHT
UP IN THE MO-
MENT AGAIN
AT THIS RATE.

I COULD SAY,
"THEN IS IT ALL
RIGHT IF I DO
IT AGAIN?"

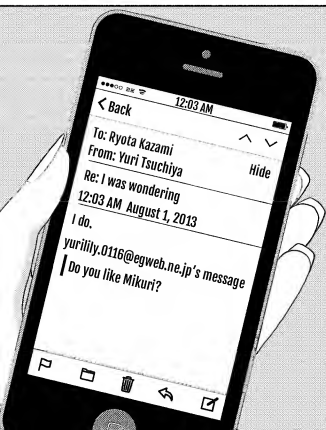
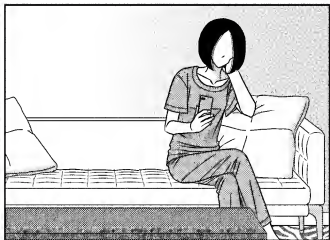


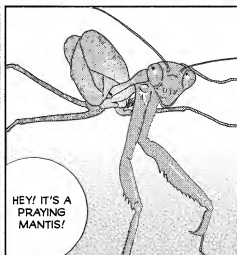
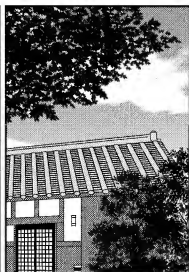
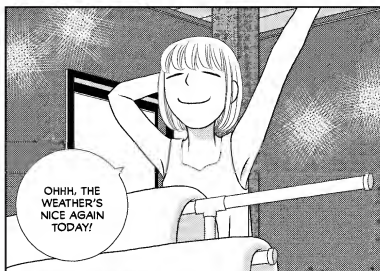
AGGG-
GGH!!

GAHHH! I CAN'T
DENY IT ANYMORE,
CAN I?

I KNOW
WHAT THIS
FEELING IS.



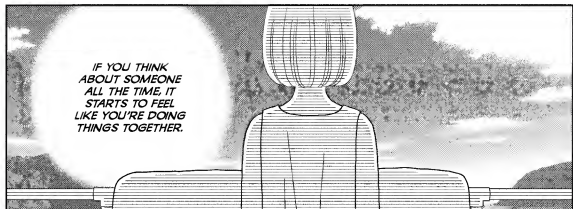




*WE MAY BE FAR APART, BUT
THINKING ABOUT HIRAMASA-SAN
SO MUCH MAKES IT FEEL AS
THOUGH WE'RE LIVING TOGETHER.*



*IF YOU THINK
ABOUT SOMEONE
ALL THE TIME, IT
STARTS TO FEEL
LIKE YOU'RE DOING
THINGS TOGETHER.*



*I'VE ENJOYED
TEXTING WITH
YOU,*

*BUT I WANT
TO SEE YOU IN
PERSON SOON.*





*I WANT TO
HUG YOU
AGAIN.*

Special Thanks to

**Aruto Asuka,
Toriko Chiya,
Satoru Hiura,
Mitsurou Kubo,
TONO,
Chie Waseda,**

**Mio Hase,
Yuko Nagao,
Hiromi Sato,
Nishiki Tachibana,
my family and friends,
Kamakura-san,
Murakami-san,
Komuro-san,
everyone who cooperated with my interviews,

and YOU.**

**With Love,Tsunami
Umino, 2014**

**You can follow my work at this blog!
<http://uminotsunami.seesaa.net/>**

Afterword

Yay! It's my fortieth *tankōbon*.

I don't know, but I think things have gotten a lot more lovey-dovey in this one.

This pair's relationship will go even further in volume five, so please look forward to it!

The chapters were a little shorter in this one due to my hospitalization, so I have some wonderful guests contributing their work in honor of my twenty-fifth anniversary!

There are a lot of artists I know and like, but I couldn't very well get everyone to draw a guest comic, so I asked the people who seemed like they had a readership that overlapped with mine.

I'm sincerely full of gratitude for everyone who so kindly agreed to help out, from those who I knew in my days of drawing for *Nakayoshi* to those I work with today.

At the time of my writing this afterword, I still haven't seen the drawings, but this is the first time I'm doing this kind of thing, and I'm really excited about it.

Thank you so very much, artists. Let's stay good friends!
Here's hoping my readers will enjoy your work!

A lot has happened in the time between volume three and volume four, including my surgery.

I'm feeling totally fine, so I've been going all over the place. I flew out of Yao Airport with a friend on a Cessna to get a view of Daisen Kofun (the grave of Emperor Nintoku) from the sky. I stayed at a pilgrims' lodging at Mt. Koya and got to meditate and copy Buddhist sutras by hand. I went a little out of the way to see flowers. Stuff like that.

Once I got sick, I realized that there isn't necessarily going to be a "next time" when you think you're going to "do something next time."

I mean, when is "someday" supposed to be? The people in your life and your environment itself are going to change.

So I decided that I'm going to act on every opportunity I have to go the places I wanted to go "someday," eat the things I wanted to eat "someday," and do the things I wanted to do "someday."

If you try to wait for your schedule to clear up, it will always be full with something or other. You have to plan first and then schedule accordingly, or you won't be able to go anywhere or see anyone.

I couldn't bring myself to ask for time off work until now, so I never got it, but I was finally able to once I got sick.

If you ask in advance, they'll manage to give it to you one way or another. You only can't get it if you request it at the last minute.

I used to grumble that I could take some time off if I got sick, but now I've learned my lesson: It's not time off when you're sick (you feel too bad to rest at all).

So everyone: Please take a break before you get sick, and start working out how you're going to do those things you wanted to do "someday"!

Oh, yeah, I was raising that lotus plant in a pot with water like I wanted, but it didn't flower this year...

The killifish I had in there all died once, so I moved it into the shade to keep the water temperature from rising too fast, but it doesn't seem like that was too good for the buds.

I panicked and moved it into the sunlight, and a tiny bud did sprout, but then it just wilted. I bought new killifish, too, but one of them died again.

Taking care of living things sure is hard...

I don't have children, but sometimes I wonder whether I'd still have this job if I did have to raise some of my own.

Of course, there are plenty of artists who have kids and still get a ton of work done, but I'm a slow writer, so I'm not sure I'd have been able to manage.

That makes me feel like I'm writing stories instead of raising children.

Some people tell me they think it's awesome that I'm drawing manga, but I think raising children is pretty awesome, too.

Some of you may be like, "Well, I'm not raising kids or drawing manga," but I feel like you're probably fostering something, although I'm sure what that is varies from person to person.

Fostering something is different than just living life. It's like relating to the world proactively.

I think it's both a struggle and a source of comfort. All that becomes a wave of sadness and joy, and it enriches your life. Basically, fostering something is love.

So with that, I'll continue to work hard on this comic.

I'll be seeing you in volume five.

May my killifish make it through winter and my lotus plant bloom beautifully next year.

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF YOUR LIFE AS A MANGA ARTIST!

*It seems like a long time, but twenty-five years pass you by in an instant!
(That's even how it feels...)*

*Since your debut, you haven't lost an ounce of your unique style and ideas.
I think you offer a good example of a miraculous forties, girl! (laughs)*

*Your work doesn't exactly fit into the box called "manga," in a good way.
Keep it coming!*

*I can be a pretty bad, careless friend, but here's hoping we'll be together
for a long time to come.*

*Your old friend from way
back in your Nakayoshi days,
Aruto Asuka*

**AN OPPOSITE-SEX
VIRGIN (?)**

VS.

**AN OLDER
VIRGIN**

*When I told her I was going to draw Numata-san, she
asked me to draw him macho. (laughs)*

*I love how you can't fit any of the characters in The
Full-Time Wife Escapist into a single box.*

I LIKE HIRAMASA-SAN AND
MIKURI-CHAN AS A COUPLE.



♡ ♡ ♡
TORIKO CHIYA

I want to
see them get
lovey-dovey
already!



It's cute how
she's always
daydreaming,
too.



It's neat how
tight he is!
[laughs]
You don't see
this kind of
character in
my manga.

← Mikuri-CHAN's such a go-getter,
and she's really got it together.
I feel like I'm looking right at
you, Tsunami-san.
You're always so helpful on
our trips. We feel like we're
looking right at you, Tsunami-
san! (Your travel buddies)

It's important, so we repeated it.



I feel like Hiramasa-san would reject making this marriage
arrangement with any of the female characters from Tokyo
Alice. That's why these two make the best couple.

Enjou Ji



← She can't cook, clean, or do
much anything. She doesn't
think of the future and
wastes too much money.

Fu



Rio

← She seems like the one
Hiramasa-san would be most
likely to go for, but she doesn't
have any desire to quit her job.
Besides, she's looking for a
stay-at-home husband, so it
wouldn't work.



←

No way, the sex
would be a deal
breaker...



Mizuho

← She seems like the
one most likely to
choose a risky life,
so she'd be rejected.

TSUNAMI-SAN! CONGRATULATIONS ON
YOUR TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY!



HAS IT REALLY BEEN TWENTY-FIVE
'YEARS SINCE YOUR DEBUT IN
NAKAYOSHI? ♡'

I GUESS WE'VE BOTH MANAGED
TO SURVIVE!

THAT TSUNAMIN FLAVOR HAS
FINALLY MADE A BIG SPLASH, WITH
THE FULL-TIME WIFE ESCAPIST!

I LOOK FORWARD TO READING
EVERY CHAPTER!

I'VE BEEN SMIRKING (◡◡) AT THE
AWKWARD DEVELOPMENT OF
MIKURI-CHAN AND TSUZAKI-SAN'S
RELATIONSHIP. MEANWHILE, I'M
WONDERING WHAT KAZAMI-SAN
IS UP TO!

I'M EXPECTING THAT THE STORY
MIGHT START TO ADVANCE REALLY
RAPIDLY AGAIN ONCE KAZAMI-SAN'S
ALOOF SHELL STARTS TO SHATTER.
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT!

AND GOOD LUCK, YURI-CHAN!

(◡◡)

2014.
SATOKU.
HIWA
兔

THAT'S LIKE ASKING SOME-
ONE WHO'S STARVING TO
DEATH, "DO YOU JUST NOT
HAVE AN APPETITE?"

DO YOU JUST
NOT HAVE A
LIBIDO?

WOW! A VIRGIN
AT YOUR AGE?!

YURI-CHAN RANDOMLY STARTED DAYDREAMING
ABOUT APPEARING ON *OUT DELUXE*.

**CONGRATULATIONS ON VOLUME FOUR
OF THE FULL-TIME WIFE ESCAPIST!**

Mitsuru Kybo,
September 2014 ☆

Congratulations on The Full-Time Wife
Escapist volume four going on sale!
I'm a little late, but congratulations on
winning the FRAll magazine manga
grand prize!
And on getting eighth place in This
Manga's Awesome! 2014, too!

I guess this makes it obvious that
I'm a Full-Time Wife Escapist
fangirl, but I keep holding my
breath like, "Come on and find
happiness by giving yourself over
to Mikuri-chan, Hiramasa-san!"

I like them
both and think
of them as
co-heroines of
the comic.

POOR HIRAMASA-SAN...

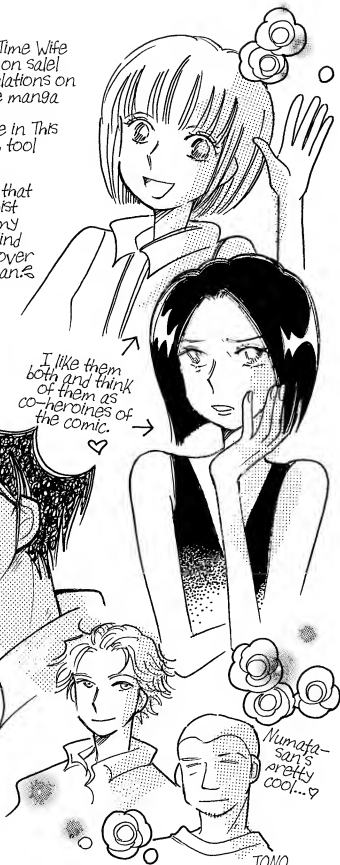


WHAT'S GOING TO
HAPPEN TO HIM,
TSUNAMIN?!

Also, I was thinking, if
volume four's cover has
Yuri-chan on it of all people,
then is volume five's cover
going to have Numata-san?

Numata-
san's
pretty
cool...♡

TONO



25

周

年

CONGRATULATIONS
ON YOUR
TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY!

When you emailed me to ask me to contribute something,
I was surprised that it had been twenty-five years.
I was like, "What? When did that happen?"
When did we meet, anyway? (laughs)
Remember to put your health first, and take care.

Chie Waseda, September 2014

ASSIGNMENT

PLEASE DRAW ONE OR MORE CHARACTERS FROM THE FULL-TIME WIFE ESCAPIST. ... HANDWRITE ANY LETTERS!

...but I went to Kansai for the first time in a while recently, and the fluffy world of takoyaki gave me a real foot in the caboot! I fell right in love! Just wow!

I felt like I could just eat and eat forever. I could go on for all eternity!

I tell you, going back to Kyoto can really change a girl!

Right...

Do you have much more to say about that?

Listen, though! I'm the type who likes to freeze my chocolates and candy before I munch on them...

Uhh...

CLING!

HAVE SOME TEA!

You can just do what you want to do, Mikuri-chan. *Just do it.

Don't worry over all that stuff about this and that and getting married and not getting married, dearie!

I'M KEEPING AN EYE OUT FOR YOU AS
THE OLD LADY NEXT DOOR. Waseda

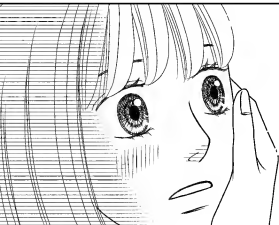
VOLUME
5 COMING
SOOOON!!

IN THE NEXT VOLUME...

THE FULL-TIME Wife ESCAPIST 5

THE TWO OF THEM HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED
THEIR FEELINGS FOR EACH OTHER.
CAN A PRO BACHELOR'S ESCAPE FROM
MIDDLE-AGED VIRGINITY REALLY GO SMOOTHLY?
AND WILL SOMETHING CHANGE BETWEEN
KAZAMI AND YURI?

...YES.



KEEP AN EYE
OUT FOR IT!

WELL,

I'M NOT SO
SURE.

Translation Notes

Send Your Cutest Child on a Journey, page 3

[3.1]

This Japanese proverb encourages parents to keep their children from becoming spoiled by making sure to expose them to the hardships of the world.

Hug Day, page 23

[23.2]

Mikuri's suggestion of August 9th for Hug Day is a pun. "Hug" is pronounced hagu in Japanese, which sounds similar to "eight-nine." Taken as a date, this would be 8/9, or August 9th.

What Is Done Cannot Be Undone, page 35

[35.1]

The original title of this chapter literally means, "Spilt water doesn't return to the bowl." This proverb means roughly the same thing as the English translation given here, and it refers especially to romantic relationships that have been cut off. It is said to have been uttered originally by the Great Duke of Qi, Jiang Ziya. According to legend, his wife left him when he was young, because he spent all his time reading instead of working. Later in life, he achieved a high station in society, and that wife tried to return to him. When she requested that they renew their marriage, Jiang Ziya knocked over a bowl of water and told her that he would accept if she could return the water to the bowl.

Yukata, page 41

[41.5]

A *yukata* is a cotton Japanese robe often worn at summer festivals and at hot springs such as the one Mikuri and Hiramasa go to in this chapter.

Dorayaki, page 50

[50.4]

Dorayaki is a Japanese confection made of two round pancake-like pieces of castella (a type of sponge cake) with a sweet filling such as red bean paste sandwiched between them.

15

Send Your Cutest Child on a Journey



16

What Is Done Cannot Be Undone



Still Waters Run Deep, page 94

[94.1]

This chapter's titular proverb would literally translate as, "The firefly doesn't cry, but it lights up." This is in contrast to a cicada, which has a cry but doesn't light up. This proverb does mean something similar to the English translation provided here, but it has some nuance that the translation does not. There is a folk poem from the nineteenth century that uses this proverb to play on the similarity between the way romantic yearning and a firefly lighting up are each described in Japanese. The poem is suggestive of a love unspoken and unable to be realized. Also, it's worth noting that while this proverb is normally written with the word "cry" as in an animal's cry, it is rendered in this book with "cry" as in a person's crying.



Edamame, page 97

[97.1]

Edamame are boiled or steamed soy beans that you eat straight out of the pod.



Yukari, page 97

[97.1]

Yukari, similar to Kleenex in the US, is a brand name that has come to be used generically in Japan. It's the name of Mishima Food Corporation's brand of dried red shiso, which is used as a topping for various foods. Shiso is a plant of the mint family.

Buchimgae, page 109

[109.2]

Buchimgae is a Korean dish made by frying ingredients such as vegetables and seafood in a batter of flour, eggs, and water.



Translation Notes

The Style Is the Man, page 125

[125.1]

The Japanese proverb that serves as this chapter's title has the same origin as this English proverb. It was Georges-Louis Leclerc who said it originally. The proverb suggests that a piece of writing expresses the nature of its writer.

Okonomiyaki, page 127

[127.5]

This food is something like a mix between a pancake and a pizza. It's made by frying a flour-based mixture, along with other ingredients such as vegetables, meat, and seafood, on a metal plate and topping it with various sauces, mayonnaise, or even curry. The precise recipe can vary from region to region.

Wēi Bā, page 128

[128.1]

This product is somewhat of a cult classic among cooks in Japan. Its main ingredients are chicken and pig bone extract, and its fans say that just a little bit can make almost anything taste like real Chinese food. Its name means "the king of flavor."

Announcer girls, page 131

[131.1]

Mikuri is referring to the young women who are often recruited to lend their voices to political campaigns in Japan by repeating their candidate's rhetoric through a loudspeaker mounted on top of a moving van.

19

The Style Is the Man



Tankobon, page 158

[158.1]

Most manga start out by being serialized in a magazine. When the chapters are collected into a book, that book is called a *tankobon*.

Kofun, page 158

[158.1]

A *kofun* is an enormous mound that was used as a burial site for people of high social standing in Japan between the third and sixth centuries. They are often shaped somewhat like keyholes.

Mt. Koya, page 158

[158.1]

Mt. Koya refers not to a mountain, but to a place in the north of Wakayama prefecture surrounded by mountains. Mt. Koya is home to a large number of Buddhist religious institutions, such as temples and mausoleums.

Out Deluxe, page 163

[163.2]

Out Deluxe is a Japanese variety show hosted by comedian Hiroyuki Yabe and famous cross-dresser Matsuko Deluxe. The show focuses on guests who “strike out,” which is to say, who are a little off.

Takoyaki, page 165

[165.3]

Takoyaki is a kind of Japanese octopus dumpling that originated in Osaka.

Afterword

By: Ito no tori no tori no tori.

I don't know what I should have written a lot more interesting in this one.

But with a magazine like this, I can't go further in volume than to write back to you (to be).

The chapters were a little shorter in this one due to my knowledge of the world. I have some interesting stories about the world in Japan and the world in Japan.

There are a lot of stories in Japan and the world, but I couldn't write all the interesting stories in this one. I tried to write the stories that were interesting to me.

I'm sorry that I couldn't write the stories that were interesting to me. I'm sorry that I couldn't write the stories that were interesting to me.

I'm sorry that I couldn't write the stories that were interesting to me. I'm sorry that I couldn't write the stories that were interesting to me.

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The Full-Time Wife Escapist 4

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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